



# MEWAR HISTORY

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*Guide to*  
UDAIPUR

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THE  
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My sincere thanks are due to my late revered friend Brigadier Shuttleworth, who during his four months sojourn in this beautiful and enchanting city of Udaipur, the Capital of Mewar, with great pains and interest, had spent his most precious hours day and night in correcting and reviewing this book, in which, on account of the romantic and heroic deeds of this land, he was greatly interested. On his departure from here, he carried this book with him to place it in the hands of printers in Bombay. But alas, on the way he broke his journey at Banera where he got fever and proceeded to Ajmer for treatment in Hospital. Mrs. Shuttleworth remained at his side day and night and took every pain in his treatment. But alas leaving her and all his friends in grief, he expired on July 30th, 1935. In this work he has left the memory of the last days of his life, for which not only Udaipur, Mewar, but all tourists to this beautiful land will remain always grateful to him.



# Preface

**M**EWAR, the cradle of Rajput chivalry, may well be called the embodiment of the greatness of the ancient culture of Hindustan. Its Maharanas, from time immemorial, have been renowned for the unselfishness of their administration. The love of their subjects and their country placed their moral obligations to both before their selfish desires and ambitions. In the defence of Mewar they fought continuously for a thousand years, and by their valour covered themselves and their country with never ending glory. The beauty of Mewar, the chivalry of the Rajputs, and the ancient dynasty of the Ruling House of Mewar, are known to the world in general in all the great countries across the oceans.

The beauties of Mewar with its glorious scenery have been compared with those of Kashmir and of Venice. But the real beauty of the city of Udaipur, with its immense and ancient buildings, its glorious lakes with their marvellous Palaces, was not, and can never adequately be appreciated, till seen.

In this land lies the ancient and far famed fortress of Chittorgarh with its Tower of Victory which to this day forms a place of pilgrimage for thousands. The battlefield, on the banks of the Ghambhira, once running red with the blood of Rajputs mingled with that of their enemies, now lies peaceful. That of Haldi-Ghati stands forth as a testimony of the land which gave birth to that magnificent character Maharana Pratap Singh who, forsaken by his relatives, overwhelmed with untold troubles and hardships, never bent his head to the Moghals and who stands forth as a protector of the fair name of the Hindus, and their religion, and who in spite of the worldly advantages which a matrimonial alliance with the Mohammedan Rulers of the times undoubtedly offered, refused the hand of his daughter to any but a Rajput of the bluest blood.

Although books exist describing the beauties of various places in Mewar, there was none which could adequately supply the requirements of a visitor to Udaipur. This being so, the present Maharana Sahib Sir Bhupal Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., instructed me to compile one. This I am able to do, not only from the hereditary sources of information preserved in my family since the time of Maharana Udai Singh in the 16th century, but from works such as the Vir Vinod, the History of Rajputana, by Mahamahopadyaya Rai Bahadur

Gaurishanker Hira Chand Ojha, Tod's Rajasthan, and from the Rajputana Gazeteer.

My ancestors were priests in the household of the famous Maharaja Prithviraj Chauhan of Delhi and Ajmer. On the Chauhan Kingdom's fall we moved to Mainpuri and Etawah in the East. At the battle of Kanva, 1527 A.D., between Maharana Sanga and the Mughal Emperor Baber, one of my ancestors Purohit Vageshwar, who accompanied Rao Manakchand who came from Rajore, to the help of the Maharana, was killed. Since that time the descendants of Rao Manakchand have held the rank of first class nobles and were granted the jagir of Kotharia, and the descendants of Purohit Vageshwar have continued to be their priests. In 1536 A.D. Banbir, an illegitimate son of Kunwar Prithviraj, murdered Maharana Vikramaditya and took possession of Chitor. It was his intention also to murder the Maharana's younger brother Udai Singh, but his nurse Panna substituted her child, thus saving Udai Singh's life. Subsequently she secretly took Udai Singh away from Chitor to Kumbhalgarh. Two years afterwards Rawat Khan of Kotharia learnt that Udai Singh was alive. Banbir, who had assumed legitimacy, had re-started the regal custom of offering Prasadi to the nobles as the Maharanas of old had always done. The offering of Prasadi was considered a great honour which was only bestowed upon the near relatives of the Maharana or to the highest nobles of the land. He offered Prasadi to Rawat Khan, but although he took it he refused to eat it. Banbir said to him "if I am not of pure blood then bring another who is." Rawat Khan went to Kumbhalgarh and there proclaimed Udai Singh as Maharana in 1537 A.D. and appointed Rama, the younger brother of his Purohit, to serve in that capacity. Ever since then my ancestors have been in the service of the Maharanas of Udaipur in the capacity of Masters of Ceremony. Though in ancient times the services of my ancestors were recognised by grants of villages, nevertheless during the last century my great grandfather Ram Nath, my grandfather Shyam Nath, and my father Padam Nath distinguished themselves and added to the high position already attained by their predecessors. The children who were first born of Ram Nath died almost immediately after birth. However, the births of Shyam Nath and Pran Nath took place prematurely and the fact that both lived is presumably due to the blessings of a saint named Laldass, a follower of the sect of Kabir. Laldass instructed Shyam Nath in the cult of Yoga when the latter was only 6 years of age. Shyam Nath having renounced the world became a Sadhu and was visited as such by Maharana Sajjan Singh. He died on the 25th of April 1876 at the age of 76. A year and a half after his death, when preparations were made for the marriage of my eldest brother Purohit Shambhu Nath, and when the sacred thread ceremony of

my brother Mathura Nath was performed, earth was dug out to form the foundation of a Chattri to the memory of Shyam Nath. At this time the body inside the Samadhi was found to be as fresh as the day when it was laid there. Samadhi is the state of mysterious meditation of a Hindu during which time he is supposed to withdraw all that is left of life from his body. Life in the body then ceases to exist and the disciples then bury it.

Padam Nath took the vow of renunciation immediately before his death at the age of 64 on the day of Shiva Ratri, namely 12th of February 1896. He left three sons, Shambhu Nath, Mathura Nath and myself. Shambhu Nath also took the vow of renunciation immediately before his death at the age of seventy-four on 21st April 1936 A.D.

I have three sons Bijay Nath, Shive Nath and Ajia Nath. Of these the eldest is a Lieutenant in the Sajjan Infantry of the Mewar State Forces whereas H.H. the Maharaja Dhiraj of Patiala has been graciously pleased to appoint Shive Nath as his A.D.C. and made him a Lieut. in the 3rd Patiala Infantry. The youngest Ajia Nath is a minor.

Being pleased with my services H.H. the Maharaja Dhiraj of Patiala has conferred upon me the honour of a first class Sirdar in Patiala State ; and in November 1937 bestowed upon me the highest honour of the state—viz., Gold and Tazim.

I celebrated the marriage of my eldest daughter in May last and on this occasion His Highness the Maharana Sahib Bahadur graciously conferred the honour of Padhrawani at my Haveli on the 4th September, 1938 and granted me a seat in front of throne and gold to my elder brother Muthranath.

DEV NATH PUROHIT,

*Master of Ceremony,*

UDAIPUR (Mewar).





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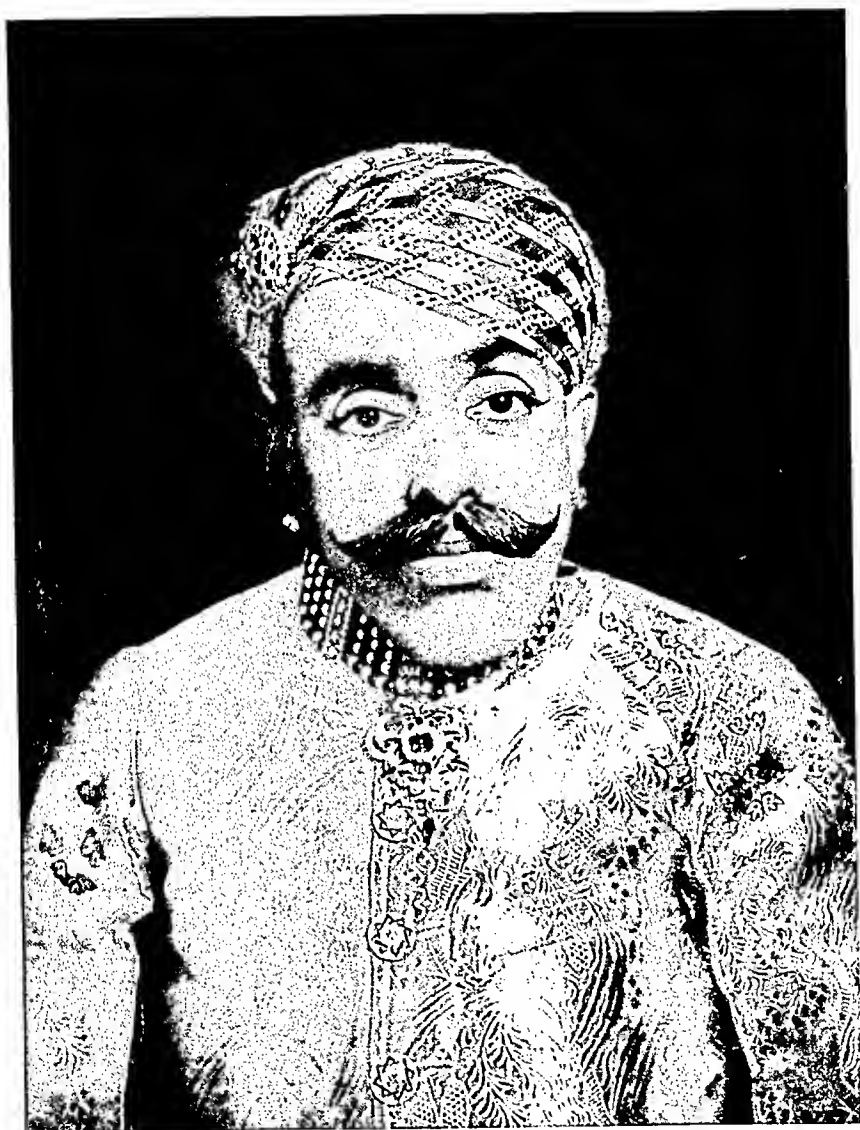
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*His Highness Maharajadhiraj Maharana Shri Sir Bhupalsinghji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.*





# *Guide to a visitor spending from one to five days in Udaipur.*

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## FIRST DAY

*Morning.*—Gangaur Ghat (Raj Ghat Tripolian). Jagdish Temple. Palaces and stables, both old and new.

*Afternoon.*—Sahelion-ki-Bari and Fateh Sagar lake. A drive through the city to Doodh Talai to see the sun setting in the evening is recommended.

## SECOND DAY

*Morning.*—Drive through the Sajjan Niwas gardens and visit the Victoria Hall Museum, the Zoo, both of which are situated within these gardens. Then pay a visit to the Jail followed by a drive to the Maha Sattiyas in Arh (cenotaphs of the Maharanas, etc., of Udaipur together with the places where Satti took place before being abolished by law).

*Afternoon.*—A visit by boat to the Island Palaces of Jagmandir and Jag Niwas. Then across Pichola lake to witness the feeding of the wild boars from a place known as Khas Odi. This sight is unique. Then return by road.

## THIRD DAY

*Morning.*—A visit to the ancient temple of Eklingji 14 miles from Udaipur.

*Afternoon.*—A visit to the picturesque lake of Udai Sagar seven miles from Udaipur.

## FOURTH DAY

*Morning.*—A visit to the Palace of Sajjangarh from which a marvellous view of Udaipur and the surrounding country is obtainable.

*Afternoon.*—A visit to Badi-ka-Talao, a picturesque lake some four miles from Udaipur, resembling a loch in Scotland.

## FIFTH DAY

A visit to Jai Samand, a lake 32 miles from Udaipur, through a picturesque jungle. This lake has the reputation of being one of the largest artificial lakes in the world and is most picturesque.

Motor cars, carriages, and Tongas, are available for hire and can be obtained by application at the Udaipur State Hotel. There is a

regular motor service to the ancient Jain Temple of Rikhabdevji some 40 miles from Udaipur, as well as to the ancient city of Salumbar some ten miles from Jaisamand. Omnibuses start from near Chaugan outside the Hathi Pole Gate and run to scheduled timings.

In the Sahelion-ki-Badi and the Jagmandir Palace there are beautiful water fountains but they do not flow continuously. If an application is made to the manager of the Hotel, arrangements will be made for the fountains to be started.

## DRESS

The court dress worn necessarily by respectable persons who daily visit the Court consists of a turban (Pagri), angarkhi (a long garment reaching to the ankles), pyjamas and a kamarband (a wrapper around the waist). On festivals and on occasions of a Darbar the Amar Sahi turban is worn, also a Dyodhi, Dupatta, etc., according to the nature of the festival.

Ordinary persons, including those who do not go to the palaces, wear dhotis instead of pyjamas. Many persons do not even put on Kamarbands. Servants and villagers do not wear the long angarkhi. They wind a piece of cloth round their heads. Mussalmans generally wear Safas.

The dress of the women, is similar to that in other States of Rajputana and consists of a Saree, a bodice, a jacket and a skirt. Mussalman women, however, wear Pyjamas instead of skirts.

The chief festivals of Udaipur are :—

Chaitra Shukla 1.	The New Year of the Vikram Era and the nine days worship of Navratri.
Chaitra Shukla 3, 4, 5 and 6.	The Gauri (or the Gangore) festival commences when a procession is formed.
Chaitra Shukla 8.	The nine days' worship of the Goddess in the month of Chaitra ends : horses and elephants are worshipped, and on the next day, the Ram Navmi festival is celebrated in temples.
Vaishakh Krishna 1.	The anniversary of the appearance of Sri Eklingji is celebrated. An elephant fight takes place on this day.
Ashadh Shukla 2.	The festival of the chariot procession takes place in the temple of Shri Jaggan Nathji (Jagdish).
Shravan Krishna 1.	The state year commences on this day.
Shravan Krishna 30.	The fair of Hariyali Amavasya is held on the embankment of Fatehsagar and in the Sahelion-ki-Bari. A fair, exclusively for women, is held here the next day.
Shravan Shukla 3.	The festival of Choti Teej is celebrated. Hindola celebration takes place in the temple.
Shravan Shukla 15.	(Full-moon day.) The 'Rakhsa Bandhan festival is held.

<b>B h a d r a p a d</b> <b>Krishna 3.</b>	The Badi Teej festival is celebrated.
<b>Bhadrapad 8.</b>	(The Janamashtami festival is held.) The celebrations in Nathdwara are on a particularly grand scale.
<b>B h a d r a p a d</b> <b>Shukla II.</b>	(Jal Jhoolani Ekadasi) Sri Thakurji is taken in procession.
<b>Ashwin Shukla 1.</b>	The nine days worship of the Goddess Navratri of the month of Ashwin begins. A procession is taken out.
<b>Ashwin Shukla 8.</b>	The worship of horses and elephants takes place.
<b>Ashwin Shukla</b> <b>10.</b>	The Vijai Dashmi or Dussehra festival is celebrated.
<b>Kartick Krishna</b> <b>13.</b>	Dhan Trayodashi—The worship of the Goddess Lakshmi begins. The Deepmalika or Devali festival is held on the Amavasya day.*
<b>Kartick Shukla</b> <b>1.</b>	Khenkra Govardhan Puja and Anukoot takes place. The festival is observed on a grand scale in Nathdwara.
<b>Magh Shukla 5.</b>	(Basant Panchmi.) From this day Phag celebrations commence in the temples.
<b>Phalgun Krishna</b> <b>11.</b>	The anniversary of the birth of the Maharana Sahib is celebrated and elephants fights take place.
<b>Phalgun Shukla</b> <b>15.</b>	(F u l l - m o o n d a y.) The Holi festival takes place.
<b>Chaitra Krishna</b> <b>1.</b>	The Dhuleri festival is held, when common people indulge in the frolics of Holi, which lasts up to Chaitra Krishna 7.
<b>Chaitra Krishna</b> <b>8.</b>	The festival and worship of Sheetla Mata (Goddess of small-pox) takes place.

## RAILWAYS

There are two State owned railways lines in the State. One of them is 69 miles long and connects Udaipur with Chittorgarh. There are the following stations on it :—

Udaipur, Khemli, Maoli Junction (for Mavli-Marwar Section), Fatehnagar, Karera, Kapsin, Pandoli, Gosunda and Chittorgarh. There are small flag stations at Debari and Bhimal. The other line runs from Mavli Junction to Marwar Junction, *via* Nathdwara Road, Kankroli, Kunvaria, Sardagarh, Gadbor Road (Amet), Kuanthal, Deogarh, Khambli Ghat, Pipli, Goram Ghat, Phulad and Marwar Junction. Pipli and Goramghat are situated in Ajmer-Merwara returned to Mewar from 1st April 1938 while Phulad and Marwar Junction are in Marwar (Jodhpur State).

## UDAIPUR

### A Brief Description of Mewar

The tract of the country known as Mewar, or Medpat, is situated in the south of Rajputana, between North Latitude 39.42 and 25.28 and East Longitude 73.1 and 75.49. It is bounded on the north by the Ajmer-Merwara District, on the west by Jodhpur and Sirohi States, on the south-west by Idar, on the south by Dungarpur, Banswara and Pratabgarh States, on the east by Gwalior, Tonk, Bundi and Kotah and on the north-east near Deoli by a strip of territory belonging to Jaipur State.

Its area is 12,691 square miles, approximately. Its population was 13,80,063 in 1921 and 15,66,939 in 1931 A.D. excluding Mewar Merwara district. Area of this district is above 225 square miles and its population is 44,463, with an annual income of Rs. 97,000.

The revenue of the State from Khalsa is nearly 80 lakhs. Khalsa is the name given to all the sources from which the State derives its revenue, excluding the revenue from the estates of the Jagirdars.

The ancient capital of Medpat (or Mewar) was Chittorgarh, in the defence of which, her kings fought many bloody battles continuously for a period of over four hundred years against the Muhammedan Kings of Delhi, Gujrat and Malva and did their best to preserve the fort from their enemies. When the fort, however, at certain times, fell into Moghul hands, the Kings of Mewar recaptured it, after risking their lives, and rehoisted their national flag over its battlements and palaces.

It will be no exaggeration to say that her kings never permitted the stain of infamy to mar their high ideals of Dharma as Khsattriya kings and they were known as the sun of the Hindus. Historians have eulogised the Udaipur princely family in many ways. I quote one of these eulogies Mr. Aitchison in his Book, "Treaties and Engagements with Native Princes", says "The Udaipur family is highest in rank and dignity among the Rajput Chiefs of India."

### CHITTORGARH TO UDAIPUR RAILWAY STATION

Visitors to the beautiful city of Udaipur, the Capital of Suryavansi (Solar race) Maharanas, have to travel 69 miles by the Udaipur State Railway from Chittorgarh, the Junction with the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway (metre-gauge) to Udaipur Station.

This line was constructed and opened as far as Debari by the late Maharana Fateh Singhji in 1894 A.D. In traversing the natural mountain barrier of Udaipur it passes through the Debari Pass, which was fortified by Maharana Udai Singhji, the founder of the city of Udaipur. During the wars with Akbar and Jchangir, the Debari Pass defences were destroyed. Maharana Raj Singhji again fortified it, and augmented its beauty by the construction of a lake



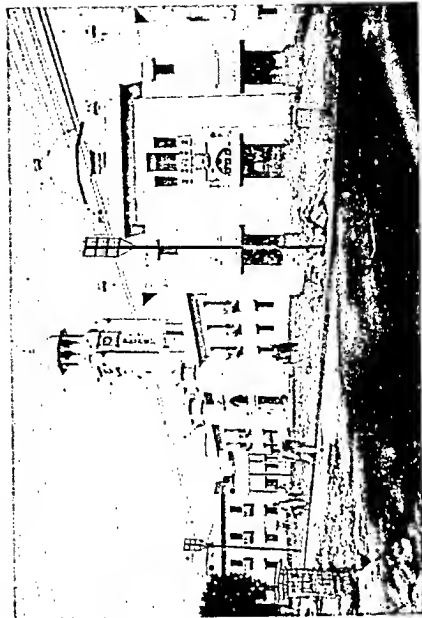
*City and the Lake.*



*City and the Lake from South.*



*City and the Lake from North.*



*Fateh Memorial.*



in 1668 A.D. His Queen Jhali Rani, built the temple of Raj Rajeshwar and a step well.

At a short distance from Debari, near Jharna-ki-Sarai, to the south of the road, is Trimukhi Baori, a very large and beautiful well having steps in three directions, made by Queen Ram Ras Devi, consort of the same Maharana Raj Singhji II, at a cost of Rs. 20,000 in 1675 and is worth a visit. A mile further on the road is another step well made by Rao Badanmal, foster brother of Maharana Shambhu Singhji. Two miles further is the recently made aerodrome. A mile further Udaipur Station the terminus of the Udaipur-Chittorgarh Railway is reached. Immediately outside the station on the road there stands a Sarai recently built by the present Maharana in memory of his beloved mother Maji Sahiba Chavadiji at the cost of Rs. 50,000, and in the south is newly built distillery.

### **Nobles School**

A few hundred yards beyond the bridge on the left side of the road is the Nobles School founded by the present Maharana in 1921 A.D. where boarding arrangements are good and some boys are kept free.

### **Champa Bagh (Garden)**

Proceeding further towards the Capital, one sees on the north of the road, the Champa Bagh, and a palace, which were built by Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.). They were in a dilapidated state but were restored by the late Maharana Fateh Singhji.

### **Hari Sidhiji**

Close by, on the south of, and outside the compound wall of this garden, there is the ancient temple of Hari Sidhiji.

### **Kota Temple**

At a short distance, on the west of the temple of Hari Sidhiji, there is another temple, known as the Kota Temple. It contains an image of Shiva, and was built by the Maharao of Kota. It contains a very fine image of Nandi (Shiva's bull) which is worth seeing.

### **Maharana's College**

On the north of the road, at the back of the temple of Hari Sidhiji, a building of the Maharana's College is being constructed by the present Maharana Sahib, at a cost of 4 lakhs of rupees.

### **Sir Curzon Wylie Memorial**

The late Maharana, Fateh Singhji, built a beautiful Chattri (a pavilion to commemorate the memory of the dead) a fountain and a cistern of water, in memory of Sir William Curzon Wylie, outside the Suraj Pole Gate, where hundreds of birds and animals of the town quench their thirst. Sir William Curzon Wylie was shot by an assassin in England. Prior to that he was Resident of Udaipur for a number of years and was much respected and loved.



## Maharana Sir Fateh Singhji Memorial

An old inn for travellers previously existed outside the Suraj Pole Gate on the site of which the present Maharana Sahib has constructed a new double-storied inn, in memory of the late Maharana Sahib at the cost of Rs. 1,80,000.

There are also two Dharamshalas for travellers, one built by the late Mahant Madhavdass of Prayagdass Asthal which is situated outside the Suraj Pole Gate and another Jain Dharamshala outside the Hathi Pole Gate, where in addition to Jains, other persons of pure living may also stay. Vaishnav pilgrims are also allowed to stay in the temple and Haveli of Sri Nathji.

There is a big and well furnished State hotel outside the Delhi Gate. Here the charges for a room, which includes boarding, are Rs. 10 per day. There is another private and recently constructed Lake View Hotel, which is situated near the Swaroop Sagar Ghat on the northern extremity of Pichola Lake. In this the daily charges are Rs. 6 per day.

The town of Udaipur stands on the eastern bank of an artificial lake, named Pichola, which is about 3 miles in circumference.

### Pichola

Pichola Lake was constructed by a Banjara in the time of Maharana Lakhaji (1382-1418 A.D.). Maharana Udai Singhji established the town of Udaipur on its bank, naming it after his own name, after raising the height of the Pichola bund, which he then made of solid masonry. The length of Pichola Lake from north to south is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles and its width from east to west is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

In 1905 A.D. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (King George V the late Emperor) visited Udaipur and the following description is given of the visit in the town about Udaipur :—

“In all Hindustan there is no more picturesque city than that which Udai Singh, when driven from Chittorgarh, founded amongst the mountains. The beautiful Pichola Lake, hemmed in by the forest covered sepia-tinted hills, is an exquisite oasis in the brownness of much of southern Rajputana. The Palaces standing upon the very crest of a ridge running parallel to the lake, but considerably elevated above the margin of the water, flanked with octagonal towers and crowned with cupolas, own no more striking or majestic structure in the east. The city, one of those rare instances of a town rising around and dependent entirely upon the Court, is stamped indelibly with the impress of a dominant Hindustan, which has not begun to disintegrate before occident living influence. And the view from the far side of the lake with the noble proportions of the palace rising sheer from the water's edge and reflected in its bosom, the slender water palaces of Jagmandir and Jagnivas of glittering white, with the soft brown hills in the background, is one of unforgettable beauty.”

When His Majesty King-Emperor Edward VIII visited Udaipur as Prince of Wales in 1921 A.D., he left the following praise of Udaipur on record :—

“ There is nothing between Madras and the northern Passes quite like Udaipur. The traveller who goes there first, is likened to a man who begins his banquet with the master-piece and is worried to find the other dishes rather dull.”

When Lord Curzon visited Udaipur in 1902 he said “ Most beautiful among the beauties, the grandest even amid all the grandeur of Rajputana, ‘ Udaipur ’ as I have seen it today and we see it tonight, will leave an impression on our minds which nothing can efface. With its snow white palaces and pavilions, its flower gardens, shady groves, with its wooded islands and exquisite lakes, it seems to the visitor a fitting frame-work for a dynasty of immemorial age, for incidents of romance and daring for a Chief who is himself an embodiment of the pride, the dignity and patriotism of his race.”

The town is situated on a hillock on North Latitude 35° and East Longitude 73.42°. A wall of solid masonry is built around it. Previously it was enclosed by a moat which was deep, broad and full of water. Now, however, the depth of the moat is reduced. The construction of the city wall commenced in 1615 A.D. during the time of Maharana Amar Singhji I and was completed in the reign of Maharana Sangram Singhji II (1710-34 A.D.).

There are eleven city gates through which one may enter the town. Their names are Surajpol, Delhi Gate, Hathipol, Chandpol, Ambapol, Brahampol, Sitabpol, Jalburj, Ramnapol (now closed), Krishnapol and Udaipol.

According to the census of 1931 A.D. the population of the town is 43,372.

## Foundation of the Palaces

In the beginning, Maharana Udai Singhji built a palace which is now in ruins, on the southern hill of Fatehsagar Lake, and is known as Moti Mahal. Once upon a time the Maharana went out hunting. A hare issued from a thicket and the Maharana giving chase on his horse killed it. The Maharana considering the spot where the hare fell to be auspicious, ordered a wooden post to be driven into the ground at the place, in order to lay the foundation stone of the palace. The post was fixed at the spot which is now the centre of the middle gate of the Tripolian gates. Maharana Jagat Singhji II (1734-51 A.D.) was very fond of riding an elephant and making it run in this courtyard. When the elephant came running to the Tripolian, the chain round his legs used at times to get entangled in that post. So the Maharana ordered it to be dug out and fixed it at its present place. This place is now called the “ Terrace of Bhairava.”

## The Throne

The Maharana noticed some smoke issuing away from the top of a hill. He went there, and saw an ascetic engaged in his penances. The Maharana paid his respects to him and sat there. The ascetic then said "Oh Lord of men, since you want to build a palace, build it here."

The King, therefore erected the building now known as "Nau Chauki," at the spot, where the high-souled person had his holy-fire burning, and according to his (ascetic's) orders, established his throne in the centre.

## Installation

Ever since then, the coronation ceremony of the Kings of Mewar used to take place at this spot. The practice of crowning according to ancient rites, stopped after Maharana Ari Singhji III was crowned, in accordance with them in 1773 A.D. The place is, however, still worshipped ; and feudatory nobles of Mewar, at the time of being invested with the sword, make presents here, as they do in other temples of the royal palaces.

The Maharanas used to sit in the lattice window in the upper story in the south of the Coronation Throne, at the time of their coronations and to throw below, from there, lakhs of rupees as alms. The window was, therefore, known as "Lakhu Gokhra" (the balcony of lakhs). Though the custom of Purdah prevails among the royal ladies of Mewar from very old times, yet previously on the auspicious occasion of coronation, the Maharanas of Mewar used to sit with their chief consort on the throne in conformity with the mode of coronation of their original father, God Ramchandra.

On this occasion principal ministers and nobles of the State were in attendance and made present, etc. The Maharana would not return salutes paid to him by anyone on this occasion.

At the time of the coronation of Maharana Sangram Singhji II in 1710 A.D. Maharaja Sawai Jai Singhji of Jaipur was in Udaipur. As a matter of courtesy the Maharana sent word to the Maharaja that the latter should not come to the court on that day, for, according to the tradition of his house, he could not show respects to anybody on that day, Maharaja Jai Singhji was, however, a very clever Prince. Without previous intimation he suddenly appeared at the court at the right moment, took the "Chanvar" or a whisk from the hand of one of the two attendants who stood on each side of the Maharana, and began to whisk the flies off himself, saying "I am very fortunate that I see God Ramchandra and Queen Sita together in person, on the throne to-day."

The custom of the Maharana sitting with his Queen on the throne in full court ceased after Maharana Ari Singhji III.

## THE ROYAL PALACES

The "Rajputana Gazetteer" describes Udaipur palaces as under :—

"This very stately building has a length of 1,500 feet from north to south and is 800 feet wide." Mr. Fergusson says, "These are the biggest palaces in Rajputana. They much resemble Windsor in their thickness and boundaries."

### Badi Pol

There is a direct 'Pucca' road from the Hathipole Gate to the Palace, through the Jagdish Chauk. It has the following buildings situated on it : the Landsdowne Hospital Mansions of Bhainsrorgarh Karjali, Sheorati and Banera, the Clock Tower, the Kotwali and the grand temple of "Jagdish." "Badi Pol," the main gate of palaces, was built in the time of Maharana Amar Singhji I in 1608 A.D.

Outside the Badi Pol, on both sides, there are the quarters of soldier orderlies. Close to the "Ghariyal-ki-Chattri" there is a stable for an elephant. On both sides of this entrance there are two minarets, which were built by Maharana Amar Singhji II (1698-1710 A.D.), and are known as "Ghariyal-ki-Chattri" and "Nagarkhana-ki-Chattri." Striking hours of the clock are regulated by the length of each day according to old astronomical method and in Nagarkhana-ki-Chattri, Naupat is struck and the Maharana's departure is signalled in striking Naupat.

On entering Badi Pol, one reaches a court-yard on the right of which there is a palace of the Ruling House built by Maharana Udai Singhji for the royal ladies. This house is now used as a State Store-room. On the left there are a few pillars, with marble arches which are well sculptured. Each of these arches was built to commemorate the weighing ceremony of Maharana Jagat Singhji I (1628-52 A.D.) in gold which was given away in charity afterwards. This Maharana used to be so weighed every year.

### Tripolian

On the metalled ascent, in the south of the court-yard, there are three gates which were built by Maharana Sangram Singhji II (1710-34 A.D.) and are known as "Tripolian." A row of three gates was first built in the palace at Chittorgarh, but the three gates there are not connected on their sides. One is behind the other and the third is joined to the second in succession.

There is a story that the Emperor of Delhi on seeing this gate built a similar one in the royal grave-yard at Delhi and at the same time prohibited their construction anywhere else. Wherever such gates were built later, they were built with the permission of the Emperor. A similar restriction was enforced concerning the construction of the barrier wall (Aghad) for elephants fighting which he

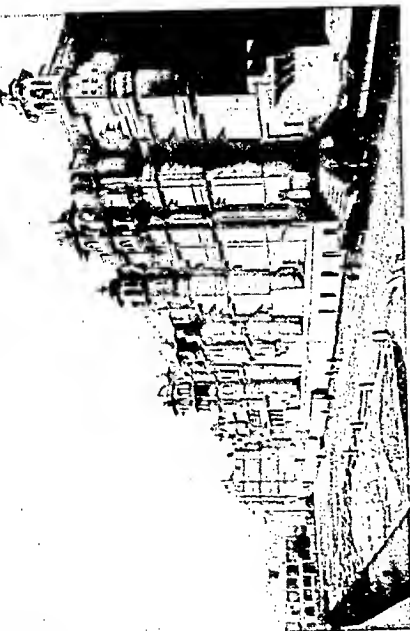
had already seen at Chittorgarh. But the kings of Mewar never really paid any attention to such orders of the Emperor. Maharana Raj Singhji I ( 1652-80 A.D. ) before he was crowned king, built the palace named " Sarva Ritu Villas ". He erected a (Aghad) barrier wall there for elephant fights, another in the palace in the fort at Raj Nagar, and his successor Maharana Jaya Singhji built a third in the palaces on the hill at " Jaya Samundra ".

Maharana Swaroop Singhji (1843-61 A.D.) built over the roof of Tripolian the building known as Hava Mahal (Air Palace). Adjoining the west of this place is a stable for an elephant from the roof of which the Maharana Sahib, with his courtiers, witness elephant fight on his birthday and on the anniversary of the appearance of Sri Eklingji.

### Big Court-yard Manak Chauk

On entering Tripolian the " Big court-yard or Bada Chauk " named Manak Chauk is reached. It was built by Maharana Karan Singhji II (1620-28 A.D.). This court-yard has vaults underneath it which are roofed arches, the upper portion having a level surface. The arches over the vaults were built very strongly as the artillery, cavalry and infantry of the Maharana used to pass through the court-yard. Moreover, formally the Holi festival used to take place in this court-yard on the backs of elephants when nearly seventy of them used on either side to race. The solidity of this court-yard is still unimpaired. Colonel Tod in his annals and antiquities of Rajasthan writes : " The palace is a most imposing pile of a regular form, built of granite and marble, rising at least a hundred feet from the ground, and flanked with octagonal towers, crowned with copulas. Although built at various periods, uniformity of design has been very well preserved ; nor is there in the east a more striking or majestic structure. It stands upon the very crest of a ridge running parallel to, but considerably elevated above, the margin of the lake. The terrace, which is at the east and chief front of the palace, extends throughout its lengths, and is supported by a triple row of arches, from the declivity of the ridge. The height of the arcaded wall is fully fifty feet ; and although all is hollow beneath, yet so admirably is it constructed, that an entire range of stables is built on the extreme verge of the terrace on which the whole personal force of the Rana, elephants, horse and foot are often assembled ; from this terrace the city and the valley lay before the spectator, whose vision is bounded only by the hills shutting out the plains ; while from the summit of the palace nothing obstructs its range over lake and mountains."

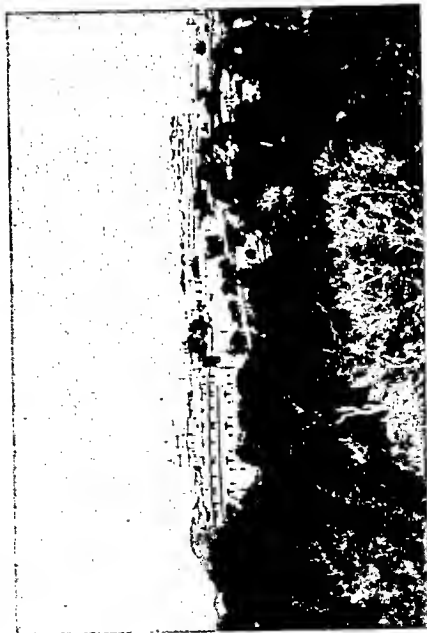
On the eastern end of this court-yard there are stables for elephants, which were built by Maharana Sangram Singhji II (1710-34 A.D.), and a gate named Surajpol, which was built by Maharana Karan Singhji.



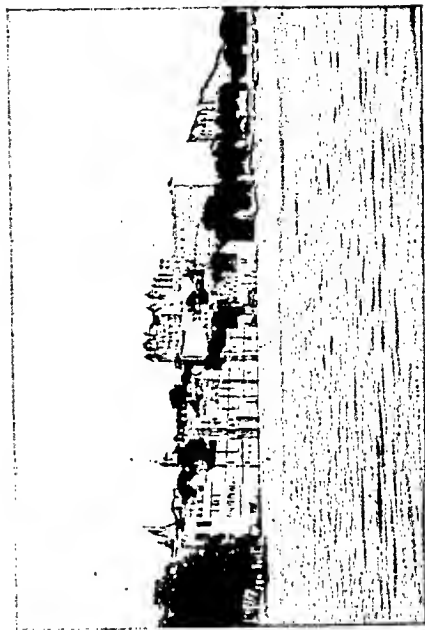
*Udaipur Palaces and Bada Chawk from North.*



*Udaipur Palaces from East.*



*Udaipur Palaces from South.*



*Udaipur Palaces from West.*



Immediately in front of this gate, towards the west, there is another gate known as Toran Pol which was built by Maharana Karan Singhji and which leads to the inner apartments of the palaces. At the time of the wedding of the daughters of the Maharana, the Toran (a wooden structure having figures on it and considered as auspicious) is tied to this gate. Therefore the gate has come to be known as Toran Pol.

Immediately after entering Tripolian the barrier wall for the fights of the elephants is seen on the right. It was built by Maharana Sangram Singhji II. Close by, to the south of this barrier wall, there is a platform where distinguished nobles, chiefs and chief officials, guests of His Highness, etc., dismount from their horses.

To the west, a row of magnificent palaces appears at a distance, commencing with the Badi Mahal Palace up to the Toran Pol and Amar Mahal.

Though in some other States the palaces may be large and more extensive, nevertheless the imposing beauty of the accumulation of palaces of Udaipur is wholly its own, and these palaces are in a class by themselves.

### **Pagda-ki-Hathini**

At the foot of the palaces there are two big and unroofed terraces having stone pavements and a stair-case between them. One enters the inner portion of the palaces by climbing this stair-case and entering a small door. The lower step of the stair-case is called "Pagda-ki-Hathini" where the Maharana Sahib and other important Princes descend from their conveyances. It is here that the Maharana Sahib takes his seat to worship horses on the day of horse-worship during the Nava Ratri festival.

### **Naharon-ka-Darikhana**

The terrace to the right of the stair-case is known as Naharon-ka-Darikhana. Formerly, Durbars on the occasion of Holi and Dewali were held at this place, as also the Durbar of Dussehra on Vijaya Dasmī day, after the Maharana Sahib's return from Sami-worship.

### **Nagina Badi**

The terrace on the left is named Nagina Badi. Durbars on the occasion of the Holi, Dewali and Ashtmi of Nav Ratri are now held here. The Maharana Sahib worships elephants from this terrace. Previously, there was a garden here named Nagina Badi. It was replaced by a terrace for public audience by Maharana Bhim Singhji (1778-1828 A.D.).

### **The Armoury**

On ascending a few steps from Pagda-ki-Hathini one passes through a small door and soon comes across the Armoury on one's



right. This was built by Maharana Udai Singhji. Maharana Sajjan Singhji (1874-84 A.D.) carried out its repairs and established an armoury in it. In addition to old-fashioned weapons of all kinds, this armoury contains the following notable objects. The double edged sword of Maharana Hamir Singh I (died in 1364 A.D.) which he obtained from the deaf female anchorite (Bahari Jogan) ; the sword and armour of Maharana Partab Singh I (1572-97 A.D.) and also the saddle of his famous horse "Chetak." Both the swords are worshipped during Navratri.

### **Sabha Shiromani**

Opposite the door of the armoury there is an assembly hall, named Sabha Shiromani, which was built by Maharana Karan Singhji and where on occasions of many State ceremonials a Durbar is held. When first class nobles of the State used to visit the palace as guards, they stayed here all day and all night. Even now, when the Maharana Sahib goes on tour, those nobles who have to keep vigil at the palace at night, rest here.

A description of the upper portion of the palaces will now follow, while a few buildings of the lower portion will be described later.

### **Ganesh Deodhi**

As there is an image of the pot bellied God, Ganesha, in a niche facing this entrance, this door is named Ganesh Deodhi. In order to ascend to the upper part of the palaces, one has to pass through this door built by Maharana Karan Singhji. Previously this stairway was an uncovered one. Recently the present Maharana Sahib, when he was heir-apparent, roofed it and at the same time ordered a mosaic of glass and porcelain bricks to be placed in it.

### **Raya Angan**

On reaching the first floor one finds oneself in a court-yard paved with stones and with buildings on all sides. All buildings on this first floor were built by Maharana Udai Singhji.

On the west there is the celebrated place of enthronement called "Singhasan" (Nochoki), where in olden times coronations used to take place. (This place is now called Panera and is used for keeping water, etc., for the personal use of the Maharana Sahib). Opposite to this in the east is the place where the installation now takes place.

### **Chandra Mahal**

On the floor above the above mentioned Nouchoki (Panera) there is a place named Chandra Mahal which was built by Maharana Karan Singhji.

### **Kachari Mahal**

Higher still the third storey comprises a building called Kachari Mahal which was built by Maharana Sangram Singhji II. The

balcony to the south of this palace is known as "Lakhu Gokhara." Formerly at the time of coronations the Maharana Sahib distributed a lakh of rupees as charity from this balcony.

### Badi Mahal

From the Kachari Mahal a passage runs towards the north to "Badi Mahal". The main passage to the latter building is the flight of steps which ascends towards the north from Raya Angan. This edifice was built by Maharana Amar Singhji II (1698-1710 A.D.). The real name of the place is Shiva Prassanna Amar Villas ; but as it contains a garden with trees, it has become to be known as the "Badi Mahal." Banquets at the time of the Holi, Dewali, Dussehra and birthday of His Highness the Maharana Sahib and other festive ceremonies in which the Maharana Sahib takes part, are held now-a-days in this place. This palace is made entirely of white marble from Rajnagar. There are two objects worth of notice in this place. One of them is a huge cistern in the verandah which is cut out of a single slab of stone which was brought from Rajnagar in a finished state and placed where it is now. On the occasion of the Holi festival in which the Maharana Sahib participates, and coloured water is thrown about, this cistern is filled with scented water. The other object of interest is the cistern in the centre of the garden. The four slabs of stone which enclose the cistern are really one piece with no joints.

There is a dome on the upper storey of this palace which is known as Mukat Mandir. It was built by Maharana Javan Singhji (1828-38 A.D.).

### Dilkhushal Mahal

From the Badi Mahal there is a passage to the south by a staircase leading to Dilkhushal Mahal. This palace was built by Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.). Glass ornamentations, designed in waves, were extended in the northern dome of this palace by Maharana Shambhu Singhji (1861-74 A.D.) and the glass floor was recently introduced by the present Maharana Sahib before he ascended the throne. The paintings depicting scenes of chief festivals of the State in the southern dome were painted in the time of Maharana Bhim Singhji (1778-1828 A.D.). The outside vestibule and the inner apartments known as the big picture gallery "*Badi Chitra Sali*" were built by Maharana Sangram Singhji II. The palace is divided into three parts, the hall having seven doors in the lower portion of the wall (the glass mosaic was carried out by Maharana Bhim Singhji the second) a balcony on the east and an ante-chamber with five doors. The porcelain bricks set in this building were ordered from China through the Portuguese. The southern building known as Madan Vilas Mahal, was built by Maharana Bhim Singhji.

## **Yasha Mandir**

From here a stairway passes through the roof of this building to the Yasha Mandir palace built by Maharana Jai Singhji (1680-98 A.D.). The glass ornamentation in this palace was effected by Maharana Swaroop Singhji (1842-61 A.D.). This is the highest point in the group of palaces.

## **Moti Mahal and Bhim Villas**

From the "Badi Chitra Sali" steps lead down to "Moti Mahal" and Bhim Villas. Moti Mahal was built during the time of Maharana Karan Singhji and the glass ornamentation in it was extended in the time of Maharana Jawan Singhji (1828-38 A.D.).

## **The Choti Chitra Sali**

The way to the "Choti Chitra Sali" down stairs is through a staircase from Raya Angan. This edifice known as "Choti Chitra Sali" was built in the time of Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.). Later additions were made to the building of images of peacocks and other ornamentations in glass in the eastern courtyard of this palace. The glass ornamentation on doors to the north and the south, were executed in the time of Maharana Sajjan Singhji (1874-84 A.D.).

## **Swaroop Villas and Suraya Prakash**

This is a two storied building to the east of the courtyard. The lower storey is called Swaroop Villas, and the upper storey is known as Surya Prakash. The audience chamber in the latter contains glass ornamentations which were made to the order of Maharana Swaroop Singhji (1842-61 A.D.).

## **Manak Mahal**

To the north of this courtyard there is the palace of Manak Mahal which was built by Maharana Karan Singhji, in which the paintings and glass ornamentations were done by the Maharana Swaroop Singhji.

## **Surya Chopad and Surya Gokhda**

To the south of the courtyard there is a palace known as the Surya Chopad, which was built by Maharana Karan Singhji. It contains the image of the Sun which faces the entrance. The present Maharana Sahib had a new image of the sun installed with rays of crystal, which when lit by electricity looks like the rising sun. This chamber has a balcony to the east known as the Surya Gokhda (Sun balcony) which can be seen from the big courtyard.

There is a tradition about this balcony which is as follows. Sometimes in the rainy season clouds hid the sun, and devotees of the sun would not take either food or water without seeing it. So, at their

request, the Maharana Sahib would sit in this balcony and show himself to them. The devotees of the sun would then take their food, for the Maharana is considered to be a descendant and an incarnation of the sun.

In the lower portion of this chamber there are figures of plaster which were beautifully and delicately painted by order of the present Maharana Sahib.

### Pritem Nivas

On the storey above Surya Chopad is a palace known as "Pritem Niwas." It contains an inlay of porcelain. It was built in the time of Maharana Jagat Singhji II (1734-51 A.D.). Maharana Javan Singhji built the two outer ante-rooms (1828-38 A.D.) and named them Pritem Nivas. Maharana Fateh Singhji (1884-1930 A.D.) made in them a mosaic of glass. The Maharana Sahib usually resides here now-a-days.

When Captain Tod came to the court of Maharana Bhim Singhji in Merwar in 1818 A.D. as the first Agent of the East India Company, he was received in a Darbar held in the courtyard of this palace (Choti Chitra Sali).

The splendour of the palace has been improved by the present Maharana Sahib, by his in-laying the stair way leading to it from Raya Angan with porcelain, and by making the floor of the courtyard of Choti Chitra Sali, and the verandas on its two sides, of Surya Chaupad of white and black marble with borders along the edges.

Now a description of the places below Ganesh Deodhi will be given.

### Karan Vilas

The Assembly Hall, immediately in front of Ganesh Deodhi, was built by Maharana Swaroop Singhji. There is a courtyard, paved with stones to the north of this hall. From the courtyard a passage leads down to the south near Bara Darvaza, to a place known as Bhim Nivas.

Close to Bara Darvaza, on the west, there is the palace known as Karan Vilas, built by Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.). Formerly the Maharana used to dine here and therefore the place is known as the Dining Hall. On the roof of this building there is some astronomical apparatus, built by Maharaja Swai Singhji of Jaipur in the time of Maharana Sangram Singhji II. The accounts office of the State is situated here now.

There is a door, in the north of this courtyard near the new gate, leading to "*Khush Mahal*" built by Maharana Swaroop Singhji (1842-61 A.D.). This palace is built after the style of the buildings in Delhi and in Agra. At present, the Mahendrasabha (High Court of Judicature), is situated here.

## LIBRARY

### Girwa Court, etc.

The present Maharana Sahib, before he ascended to the throne, established a library above the new gate. From here there is a path to the lake, along which a tank for the storage of pipe water, a court known as the Girwa court and the sepoy orderlies' lines are situated.

## ZANANI DEODHI

### Ladies' Apartments

The court below "Ganesh Deodhi" is known as Moti Chauk. On the west of this courtyard there is the Maharana's kitchen. On the south there is a gate to the ladies' apartments named Zanani Deodhi, leading to Ravala (Royal ladies' palace.)

### Ravala or Ladies' Palace

Here, after passing through the gate one sees to the west the temple of Sri Pitambar Raiji, and to the south, the extensive palace for ladies, constructed by Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.).

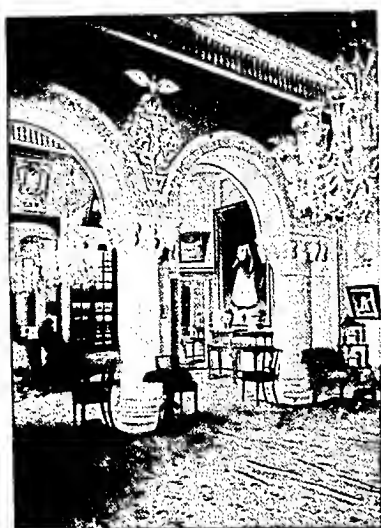
### Amar Mahal

On the east is situated Amar Mahal built by Maharana Amar Singhji I (1597-1620 A.D.).

### Divani

From Moti Chauk, one arrives at the big courtyard Manak Chauk, through gate name Toran Pol. Here there is a building called Palankhana (saddle Department) which was built by Maharana Sangram Singhji II. Maharana Swaroop Singhji lived in it, when he was heir-apparent. It now contains the Session Court. The image of Ganesh, on the roof of this building, was installed by Maharana Swaroop Singhji.

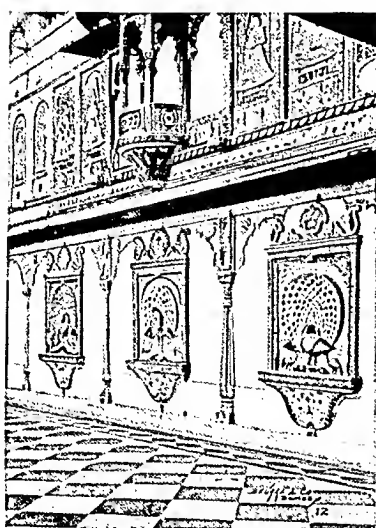
From here a path takes one to Shambhu Nivas, through Chandra Chauk, and another to the east goes to Jaleb Chauk, through a gate called Suraj Pal, which was built by Maharana Karan Singhji and through another gate, called Vijai Pol. Maharana Fateh Singhji built, towards the east, a gate named Shumbhu Pal, which has houses on both sides. On each side of the gate, there are stables built for "Red Lead" and "Expert," two horses sent by King Emperor Edward VII in 1905 A.D., for Maharana Fateh Singhji, in return for an Enamelled Gold Chauvasse studded with diamonds and golden Suraj Mukhi, which he presented to His Royal Highness Prince of Wales (The Late King Emperor George V), when he visited Udaipur. The horses, which belonged to His Majesty the King Emperor, were thoroughbreds which had won many prizes in Horse Shows in England.



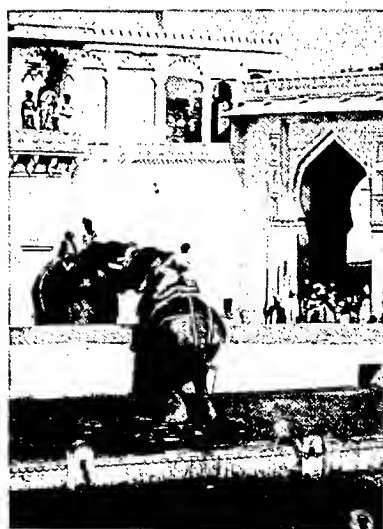
*Shambhu Niwas.*



*Shiva Niwas.*



*Chhoti Chatrasali.*



*Elephant Fight.*



## Shive Nivas

From Jaleb Chauk, a path leads to Shive Nivas built by Maharana Fateh Singhji (1884-1930 A.D.) at a cost of nearly 6 lakhs of rupees. It looks so charming and so magnificent from the outside, that those who visited it with the Prince of Wales in 1905 A.D. called it the "Diadem of the Palace." It is crescent shaped. Entering the gate, one enters a spacious arched courtyard, shaped like the crescent moon. This building is divided into 9 sections. In the first section there are many paintings. The second, third, seventh and eighth sections are without ornamentation, while the fourth, fifth, sixth and ninth have mosaics of glass.

The fifth section contains a beautifully executed mosaic. In the balcony and the audience chamber of this portion there is a mosaic of birds of subtle workmanship in glass. The building contains two life size portraits in oils of Maharana Partabsinghji I and Maharana Amar Singhji I, painted by Raja Ravi Varma, and pictures of all the other rulers of Mewar, from Maharana Udai Singh upto the late Maharana Sahib. The crystal furniture in this room was specially ordered by Maharana Sajjan Singhji from England for the Shumbhu Nivas palace from which it was removed to this building at a later date.

The ninth section contains very fine pictures of water birds, in a mosaic of green glass. Here also there are two life size portraits in oils of Maharana Raj Singhji and Maharana Jai Singhji, the builders of Raj Samandra and Jai Samandra respectively, painted by Raja Ravi Varma.

In the turret of this building there are beautiful coloured pictures on the lower portion of the walls, depicting the palaces. At the door of this building there is a picture showing Colonel Tod at the Darbar of Maharana Bhim Singhji. There are fine paintings also in the domes of the first and ninth sections.

Anyone who sees this palace, and has seen Lord Curzon's Darbar in 1903 A.D., is reminded of the latter. The Chauki of section No. 5 is like the Pavilion under which Lord Curzon and the Duke of Connaught sat, while the verandah and the steps in front of the palace are similar to the amphitheatre in which the Governors, Chiefs and other Darbaris sat. The crystal fountain in the centre of the courtyard might be taken for the flag staff.

## Shambhu Nivas

To the north of Shive Nivas, there is Shambhu Nivas. An enclosed passage leads to its domes but the ordinary way to it lies through Manak Chauk. Maharana Shumbhu Singhji designed and furnished this palace in English style, according to his own taste. The banquet hall of this palace contains two life sized portraits of Maharana Sajjan Singhji and Maharana Fateh Singhji. The Duke of Connaught, Prince Albert Victor, Lord Northbrook,



Lord Landsdowne, and the Maharajas of Jaipur, Jodhpur, Indore and other States as well as the Gaikwar of Baroda stayed in this building when they visited Udaipur.

Now the Viceroy, the Prince of Wales and high officials usually stay at the Residency, while other distinguished Indian Princes reside in Lakshmi Villas. Shambhu Nivas is generally used for Banquets to distinguished guests.

At the spot where Shambhu Nivas is situated there was originally a building known as Kunwar-pada-ka-Mahal (heir-apparent's palace, built by Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.). It was razed to the ground and in its place Maharana Shambhu Singhji (1861-74 A.D.) built this palace and named it Shambhu Nivas. Only a small portion of the edifice exists now. Kanwar Sardar Singh, the second son of Maharana Raj Singhji I, used to live in it. He also died in it.

## **DARBAR HALL**

### **Minto Hall**

Close to Kunwar-pada-ka-Mahal, to the west, is the Minto Hall. As there was no suitable buildings in which to hold Darbars Maharana Fateh Singhji had the foundation of this building laid by Lord Minto, when he came to Udaipur in 1909 A.D. and named it the Minto Hall. The length of the Darbar Hall is 115 feet and width 45 feet. There is accommodation for the general public on the first two floors. There is also a gallery for visitors.

### **Akhara-ka-Mahal**

From here a road runs northwards to Akhara-ka-Mahal, built by Maharana Swaroop Singhji (1842-61 A.D.). It contains a courtyard in which horses are exercised. It is bounded by buildings on its north and south. The building on the south contains the idol of the God Shiva known as Bannathji.

### **Bhim Nivas**

Adjacent to Akhara-ka-Mahal, there is a building to the north known as Bhim Nivas, built by Maharana Bhim Singhji (1778-1828 A.D.). It contains paintings and ornamentations in glass.

Just below Akhara-ka-Mahal there is the temple of Gulab Swaroop Behariji, and a ghat, built by the chief consort Rathorji of Maharana Swaroopsinghji.

### **Parbati Villas**

To the north of the temple and on the bank of the Pichola lake, there is a building named Parbati Villas. At the time of the Gauri Gangaur festival the image of Sri Gangaur Mataji, worshipped by the royal ladies, is brought here by way of the ladies' stairway. On these occasions all arrangements are made by women. The Maharani Sahiba also visits the place according to her pleasure.

## Jal Nivas

Close to "Parbati Vilas" to the north there is a building, known as Jal Nivas, which was constructed by Maharana Javan Singhji (1828-38 A.D.). Formerly banquets for Europeans used to be given here. Originally the place comprised a ghat and a temple of Shiva built by Rupa Dhabai, the foster brother of Maharana Ari Singhji III. (He also built a temple and a bridge on the river Ahar in village of Pulan.) Previously this space was open but the present Maharana Sahib has had a Police Court and the Khalsa Kachari built on it.

## Stables and Carriage Sheds

To the east of and below the Suraj Pal, in the palace building there is a row of stables of solid masonry with sheds for carriages.

The Chandni Chauk is situated to the south of the stables. From here a road takes one to the garden through a door named the Ganesh Pal, built by Maharana Fateh Singhji. Another road takes one from here to Khasodi, through a new gate, named Hanuman Pal, built on "Badi Pal" by Maharana Fateh Singhji. This road goes on by the side of the Dudh Talai (an arm of Pichola lake) and thence through Jal Buraj gate to Khasodi.

By building a wall with Kangooras (parapets) and gates around the many palace buildings, Maharana Fateh Singhji has made the group of palaces look like a fortress. Immediately out and to the right on the top of a hill are the tombs of those Sahelians, (favourite Maids of Honour) which were sent as a present to Maharana Sangram Singhji II 1710-34 A.D.) by the Emperor of Delhi.

A building of solid masonry built by Maharana Fateh Singhji, at a cost of one lakh of rupees for the storing of grass, is situated immediately outside the Ganesh Pal.

## Kunver-Pada-ka-Mahal

In the town near Ganesh Ghati there is a well-known building called the "Kunver-pada-ka-Mahal" (palace), built by Maharana Bhim Singhji for his son Javan Singhji. Previously at this spot was the mansion of the Maharaj of Karoi. But after his return from his jagir of Potlan Prince Javan Singhji used to reside here. There is a branch school situated in it at present.

## Sajjan Nivas Garden

This spacious garden, beautiful on account of its plentiful verdure, laid out by Maharana Sajjan Singhji, is situated near the palace, below Badi Pal (the big embankment) on the east side of lake Pichola.

Previously several gardens existed here, of which "Nawlakha Bag," "Gulab Bag," "Kan Bag," "Samore," etc., were the most important.

“Nawlakha Bag” and the palace inside it were built by Maharana Javan Singhji (1828-38 A.D.). Formerly on the day of the Holi festival the Maharana Sahib, having participated in the sports peculiar to the occasion which used to take place in the big courtyard of the palace, used to pass on an elephant through the main Bazar on his way to this palace. He rested here the whole day. In the evening he used to go in procession to the big palaces and hold the Darbar of Holi there.

Now-a-days the Mahakmakhas is located here. Near the temple of Sitla Mata, there is the palace named “Rang Nivas” recently rebuilt by the present Maharana Sahib.

Formerly on the morning of Shitla Ashtami the Maharana Sahib used to go in a procession from the palace, to visit Shitla Mata and there convene a Darbar at Rang Nivas, where singing and dancing took place. At present this building is used as a Guest House for chiefs and distinguished guests of the Maharana Sahib.

The Sajjan Nivas garden is laid out with broad roads and foot-paths. Along these roads and foot-paths many varieties of trees have been planted and these have now grown large and give wonderful shade. There are also mango trees near the small lake where the State garage is situated. The garden roads are exceedingly well kept and between them are lawns of green grass with artistically arranged flower beds, ablaze with colour afforded by a bewildering variety of brightly coloured flowering plants. There are large ponds covered with lilies with smaller ponds in the centre on which fountains play, cooling the surrounding air. Within this beautiful garden, there are wired and barred enclosures in which tigers, lions, leopards and other animals are kept. There are also aviaries for birds and open wired enclosures for deer and other animals. His Highness is a great lover of animals and it is a never ending joy to him to drive past these cages and enclosures in the evenings when he takes his daily drive in his car and sometimes to wait a while to watch them at play or while they are resting.

In these gardens is a large open grassy space on which the children of Udaipur enjoy themselves by playing games of all sorts.

Formerly a fair, known as the fair of “Flower Baskets,” was held in this garden after the Sheetla Ashtami festival. Now-a-days, a fair takes place in it every Monday in the month of Sravan. At that time confectioners put up their stalls and the whole place is illuminated with electric lights. The state provides swinging ropes on big trees for thousands of men and women and children who enjoy themselves freely in the rains.

### Victoria Hall

The Victoria Hall which was built by Maharana Fateh Singhji to commemorate Queen Victoria’s Golden Jubilee in 1887 A.D. is situated



Victoria Hall.



Residency (Col. & Mrs. Betham who took great interest in this book).



111

Turban of Prince Khuram  
(afterwards known as Empur  
Shah, ruler of Orchi) which  
was exchanged for Nuharans  
Kasau: nggi's at Ladafin  
in A.D. 1621. (In the original  
fold)

कसरी शहरजादे खुरम ध्यानी की  
शहरजादे शहरमा की मो रान  
१५२१ ई. में मराठा राजा शिवाजी  
की से रणभूमि में बहली गई थी  
शिवजी की बहली में खुरी दुई है

(111)

DEVARE & Co  
BOMBAY  
106

Khuram's Turban.



near the Nawlakha palace, etc. The hall contains a library and a museum. Its opening ceremony was performed by Lord Lansdowne in 1890 A.D. The library has a large collection of historical books and the museum contains many old inscriptions on stones, coins, weapons and other articles of the handcrafts of Mewar, and specimens of the turbans of many parts of India are also kept there.

The turban of Prince Khurram (Emperor Shahjehan) which he exchanged for that of Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.) in order to establish the relationship of a brother with the latter at a time when he found refuge with the Maharana, is in the museum. Maharana Karan Singhji was a friend of Prince Khurram who rebelled against his father, Emperor Jehangir and then while fleeing for safety from place to place, sought protection with the Maharana. The latter protected him from harm in Jagmandir palace.

In front of the Victoria Hall, there is a full sized statue in white marble of Queen Victoria, erected to commemorate Her Golden Jubilee. It was unveiled by Her grandson Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale.

Just below the embankment of Pichola lake, there is a garden known as Samore, which contains a palace of the Maharana Sahib, a tennis court and a shed for motor cars. A temple of Nil Kanth Mahadev which is very old, the temple of Dakkhshina Murti and of a goddess of the time of Maharana Sangram Singhji II are also situated in it.

## ARSENAL

To the north of the garden there is a house and a pinnacled temple of Vishnu, built by Ram Pyari, the Maid of Honour of Maharana Hamir Singhji II (1773-78 A.D.). When Colonel Tod arrived at Udaipur as an Agent of the Hon'ble the East India Company, on the conclusion of the treaty between the said East India Company and Maharana in 1818 A.D., he stayed in this building. Maharana Swaroop Singhji (1842-61 A.D.) constructed the temple of Jagat Shiromanji outside the Badi Pol (Palace gate). He then removed the arsenal from its former site and established it here.

## Sarva Ritu Vilas

The place named Sarva Ritu Vilas is situated to the east, outside the compound of this garden. It was built by Maharana Rajsinghji I, when he was heir-apparent. It contains cisterns, fountains, slabs of stone, etc., of exquisite workmanship. The present Maharana has repaired it. Close and east to it is situated another building known as Bhim Vilas built by Maharana Bhim Singhji.

## Sword Worship

Inside the Kishan Pal, to the south of the Sajjan Nivas garden, there is a house on the top of a small hill. Here a Nath Yogi (ascetic)

keeps a fast, sits at one spot, under the supervision of Ayasji of Laduvas, during the nine days worship of Durga Puja, during the latter half month of Asoj (Ashvin) and guards the sword. That double edged sword which was obtained by Maharana Hamir Singhji I in the 14th century from Bahari Jogin (deaf female Anchorite) is brought from the palace in state procession on the first day of Puja Navaratri and worshipped here for nine days. The Maharana visits this place on 1st and 4th day of worship and on the last days of the Puja of Navaratri. It is again carried in state procession by that guardian Nathji and presented to the Maharana Sahib in Darbar. Before the arrival of this procession the Maharana Sahib worships horses and elephants. Afterwards this the ascetic and his followers are fed and rewarded in cash, etc.

### Equipment Depot

The equipment Farash Khana Depot, which was built by Maharana Fateh Singhji at a cost of one lakh of rupees, is situated immediately to the south of the wall of the Sajjan Nivas garden.

### Pichola Lake

The dam of the Pichola lake was originally built by a Banjara in the reign of Maharana Lakhaji in the fifteenth century, and as it was within the limits of the village of Picholi, it came to be known as Pichola. When Maharana Udai Singhji made Udaipur his capital, he strengthened its bund by making it of solid masonry, and he also enlarged the size of the tank. The dam was known as the Badi Pal. Later, Maharana Jagat Singhji I, Sangram Singhji II, Bhim Singhji and Javan Singhji repaired and strengthened the dam. In 1795 A.D. when Maharana Bhim Singhji was reigning this dam was broken by excessive rain. As a result half of the town of Udaipur was washed away. During the time of Maharana Javan Singhji, the dam weakened and in consequence of this, a turret known as the Javan Burja, or Jabal Burja, was constructed.

On this dam there is a chattri of Somchand Gandhi, the Chief Minister of Maharana Bhim Singhji, who was killed inside the palace by Sardar Singh, the Rawat of Chawaud. Satidass and Jai Chand, brothers of the Chief Minister, avenged the death of their brother by killing Sardar Singh, on the bank of the river Ahar, after having ransomed him from the Sindhi Sepoys who had taken him as a hostage for their salaries. The Rawat is commemorated by a chattri built at that spot.

### Badi Pal

Badi Pal is 334 yards long and 110 yards wide. The length of Pichola lake is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles, its breadth being about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles and average depth 30 feet. It contains 418 million cubic feet of water and covers an area of  $3\frac{3}{4}$  square miles.

On the northern dam of Pichola Lake, outside the Chand Pal Gate, there is a bridge which connects the town of Udaipur with its suburb, the island Braham Puri. The water of Pichola, flowing under this bridge, merges with that of a large pool, known as Rang Sagar which was constructed by Maharana Jai Singhji.

Another piece of standing water, known as Swaroop Sagar, lies a little to the north. It is known as Kalalya Shiva Sagar, as it has a temple of Shiva belonging to the Kalalyas in it. When its eastern dam broke during the time of Maharana Swaroop Singhji, he had it reconstructed and he then named the pool Saroop Sagar (1848 A.D.).

Maharana Sajjan Singhji further extended the limits of the Pichola Lake. Now the whole expanse of water is known as Pichola. This sheet of water contains islands of various sizes, the two largest being Jag Mandir and Jag Nivas. Fergusson has written of them that the only objects in Europe to be compared with them are the Borromean islands in Lago Maggiore, but I need scarcely say, their Indian rivals lose nothing by comparison. They are as superior to them as the Dumo at Milan is to Buckingham Palace. Indeed I know of nothing that will bear comparison with them anywhere.

### Jag Mandir

Two island palaces of Jag Mandir and Jag Nivas have white buildings, gardens and trees on them and are very beautiful. The foundation of the big dome in this building on Jag Mandir was laid by Prince Khurram (Emperor Shah Jehan) on the conclusion of a treaty between Maharana Amar Singhji I and the Emperor Jehangir in 1615 A.D. Maharana Karan Singhji completed the building in about 1622 A.D. When Prince Khurram rebelled against his father (Jehangir) and was chased and hunted by the Imperial army from Patna, Hansi, Mathura, Ranthambore, Mandu and other places he sought protection in Udaipur. Maharana Karan Singhji with the traditional hospitality of his house first kept him in a building which is now known as Delwara Mansion and is situated near the chief palaces. Later on when the construction of the big dome on Jag Mandir had been completed, he transferred the Prince to the building on that island. The mosaic inside the cupola is a very ancient specimen of this type of art in India. The Emperor Shah Jehan after having seen the mosaic on Jag Mandir ordered the execution of a superior design in the forts of Delhi and Agra and in the mausoleum known as Taj Mahal, when he became Emperor.

During his stay at Udaipur Prince Khurram exchanged his turban for that of Maharana Karan Singhji to establish his relation as a brother of the latter. This turban of Prince Khurram is preserved in the Victoria Hall Museum.

Maharana Jagat Singhji I. (1628-52 A.D.) constructed ladies' apartments, a garden and a courtyard and named the whole after his own name Jag Mandir. Maharana Sangram Singhji II.



(1710-34 A.D.) made the following additions to it, and thus enhanced its beauties :—the eastern palace of marbles of 12 slabs ; the two assembly chambers ; apartments for ladies, canal and columns on the west ; and the four cisterns. The paintings inside the domes on all sides of the canal was done so well that it is practically as fresh now as it was then.

In the Mutiny of 1857 A.D. the Indian Regiments stationed at Neemuch, rebelled. English Officers and women with their children had taken refuge in a village named Dungla. Maharana Swaroop Singhji had them brought to Udaipur in safety and then kept them in comfort on the island of Jag Mandir, until order was restored. The elephants wrought in white stone at the main entrance of this building were constructed originally inside the water. Recently the Maharana Sahib placed them at a level with the surface of water.

The following list gives the names of the refugees, who were sheltered in the Jag Mandir Palace on the island during Mutiny. It was furnished by General Gordon :—

Assistant Surgeon Clark,  
Surgeon I. Murray,  
Ensign Davenport,  
Serjt-Major Nisbet.  
Lieut. Wallington Rose,  
Miss Walker,  
Lieut. E. P. Gordon,  
Major T. Macdonald,  
Surgeon Gave.

### Jagniwas

The other island palace is known as Jagniwas. It was built by Maharana Jagat Singhji II in 1754 A.D., who named it Jagniwas.

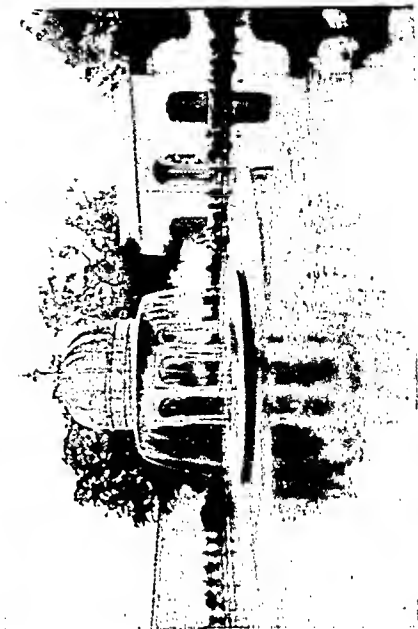
Maharana Jagat Singhji II, while he was heir-apparent, sought the permission of his father, Maharana Sangram Singhji II, to live for a few days in Jag Mandir. His father replied that if his son was so keen on living on an island, he would have another island building constructed for him. As a result the foundation of this island was laid. On it the Bada Mahal, the Khush Mahal, the Dilaram, the Canal, the Fool Mahal, the Dhola Mahal (White Marble) and the foundations, date from that time.

Maharana Shambhu Singhji built Shambhu Prakash (1861-74 A.D.) in English style. To the west of Bada Mahal on the east of Bada Mahal, between Dilarama and Khush Mahal the present Maharana Sahib has recently built Sarva Ritu Vilas, and has also made additions to Khush Mahal.

Over the western portion near the entrance there used to be a cistern with two assembly chambers and a few broken down houses. Maharana Sajjan Singhji (1874-84 A.D.) had them repaired and turned



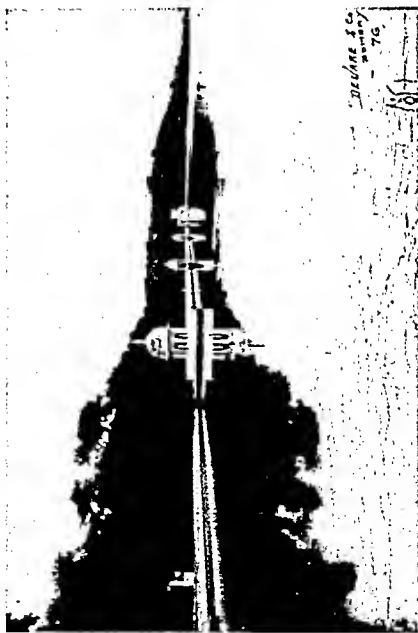
*Jagtiwas.*



*Saheliyon ki Bari.*



*Jagnandir.*



*Fateh Sagar.*



them into a very fine palace, called Sajjan Nivas. On entering it one comes across the cistern and the two assembly chambers but they are now covered with mosaic in green with blue pieces of glass and look beautiful. The upper storey of this palace also contains glass mosaic and fine paintings. There is also a life-sized painting of Maharana Sajjan Singhji.

To the north there is a building known as "Chandra Prakash" built recently by the present Maharana Sahib. In the room there is light ornamental work in gold.

When a member of the Royal family or the Viceroy or other illustrious guests arrive in Udaipur, there are illuminations in the palaces. The islands and banks of the lake are also illuminated. Previously earthen chirags were used but now this is done by electric light, as the present Maharana Sahib has installed electricity in Udaipur.

### **Mohan Mandir**

Is a small island near the Raj Ghat Tripolian. It was built to commemorate the victory of Maharana Jagat Singhji I. (1628-52 A.D.) over Sirohi and was named after Mohandass, a natural son of the Maharana.

### **Arsi Vilas**

Maharana Arsi Singhji III. (1761-73 A.D.) built this palace in the water to the west of Jag Nivas near Mangri and named it after himself.

### **Chandra Prakash**

This is a terrace (Assembly Platform) situated on the southern end of the Pichola Lake. A fakir named Jalala Shah lived here on a rock and, after him, the terrace was named Jalala Bhata. It is also called the Natanika Chabutra (platform) on account of the following legend :—

Once a female rope dancer came to Udaipur and reported to the Maharana that she could walk on a rope, tied from the palace building to the other side of Pichola Lake. As this was considered it to be an impossibility she was told that if she could cross the lake, she would get half the kingdom of Udaipur. A rope was then tied from the palace building to a hillock above Paraie Sitamata. The rope dancer walked on it and reached the spot where the platform is situated. Then some servants of the State cut the rope, and the girl fell into the water and was drowned. The platform was then constructed at this spot and is known as Natni-ka-Chabutra (platform). The true story however is that Maharana Sajjan Singhji built this platform, so as to see the full beauty of the moonlight falling on the lotus flowers and named it Chandra Prakash (The Lustre of the Moon).

### **Khas Odi**

The Khas Odi is to the south of the Pichola Lake and here the wild pigs are fed every evening. There is an enclosure in which tiger and

boar fight takes place. This was built by Maharana Sangram Singhji II, but great additions were made in it by Maharana Fateh Singhji, who used to go there practically every evening. A very fine view of the lake and city is obtained from it.

### Maha Kaliji

A little beyond Khas Odi on the edge of the Pichola Lake is a shooting box called Nahar Odi. On the hillock above it known as "Banki Pahar" the temple of Maha Kaliji, which was built by Maharana Jiwan Singhji in 1836 A.D., is situated. The Maharana Sahib used to visit this place once during the Navratri festival.

### Sita Mataji

Further on is the ancient temple of Sita Mataji on the edge of lake. A fair is held here on a Sunday in the month of Posh.

### Baidya Nath Mahadev

To the west, beyond Sita Mataji, there is a village named Sisarma. In it there is a large pinnaced temple of Shiva "Baidya Nath" of ancient architecture. It was built by Dev Kumari Bai, the mother of Maharana Sangram Singhji II, in 1725. When this temple was constructed, the Maharana's mother was weighed in gold which was given away in charity. A big function then took place in which the chiefs of Dungarpur, Kotah, etc., participated and received robes of honour as presents.

From here a road runs direct to Braham Pol, the western gate of the town. A small hill known as "Haridass-ki-Mangri" stands at the edge of the lake. Maharana Fateh Singhji built a masonry wall around it and put deer of various species in it. Maharana Fateh Singhji effected the repairs of a dilapidated two-storied building situated on this hillock as also of an assembly chamber which existed below. The latter was turned into a residence for the Maharana's family and furnished with beautiful paintings and a full-sized portrait of the present Maharana Sahib as a boy. An enclosure like the one at Khas Odi has been built here too. In this, tigers, boars and other animals sometimes fight. Here also wild pigs are fed with maize every evening as at Khas Odi.

From here a road runs to the Braham Pol Gate and the town, and another to the Fateh Sagar Lake.

On the western bank of Pichola Lake are the temples and mansion of Amet, etc., and Hanuman Ghat Temple. The old Mahant Sitaram Dass of this place was fully a hundred years old. Behind and over-looking the temple of Bhim Padmeshweri is a Sanskrit school built by the present Maharana Sahib in memory of his father.

## Boat Department

On the east of Pichola and immediately north of the palace gate at Pipli Ghat is the Nav Ghat where all State boats are anchored, and from where visitors may embark for Jag Nivas, or for cruises on the lake.

Beyond this are mansions of various chiefs, and the Lal Ghat. At the Lal Ghat, the present Maharana Sahib, when he was heir-apparent, built a Ghat for women to bathe unseen by men.

## The Bagore Mansion Guest House

To the north of this on Raj Ghat is the Mansion of Bagore. Thakur Amar Chand Badwa, a Sanadhya Brahmin (author's caste), and the Prime Minister of Maharana Pratap Singhji II (1751-54 A.D.), Raj Singhji II (1754-61 A.D.), Ari Singhji (1761-73 A.D.) and Hamir Singhji II (1773-78 A.D.) built this Bagore Mansion (this was his own mansion but afterwards given to the Maharaj of Bagore), Tripolian gate (on Raj Ghat) or Gangaur Ghat, and Amar Kund (portion of Pichola from Sitapole to Chand Pole). The Maharaj of Bagore was then the immediate successor to the State. Maharana Sardar Singhji, Saroop Singhji, Shambhu Singhji and Sajjan Singh were all adopted from this family. Ultimately when Maharaj Shakt Singhji, the last descendant of this line, died without issue, his fief lapsed to the State and so this mansion came under the control of 'Khalsa,' i.e. State control. The present Maharana Sahib repaired this building and furnished it suitably for Indian State guests.

## Raj Ghat

Raj Ghat is situated close to this place, in front of Tripolian, built by Amar Chand Barwa. It is known also as Gangaur Ghat, because formerly the idol of the Goddess Gangaur, worshipped by the house of Udaipur, was brought to this place in procession from the third to the sixth day of Chaitra Sukla. Maharana Fateh Singhji stopped this practice, and instead ordered that the idol should be taken to Parbati Vilas, a place inside the palace. So nowadays the Maharana Sahib only arrives at this place and consequently boards the State barge. At sunset dancing girls perform their dance. On Viru Ghat and Bolsari Ghat, common people of the town bring their idol of the Goddess Gangaur, and after the end of the usual ceremonial of making offerings to them, they are taken back by the women who go along singing and playing upon musical instruments.

Between Raj Ghat and Chand Pol there are successively Viru Ghat and Bolsari Ghat and Amar Kund (built by Amar Chand Barwa). To the north of these, lie Ranga Sagar and Swaroop Sagar. The present Maharana Sahib, when he was heir-apparent, built a ghat of solid masonry and a pavilion on Swaroop Sagar and named it Swaroop Ghat. On the hillock westward of Swaroop Sagar, there

is the redoubt of Ambavagarh, built by Maharana Ari Singhji III during the siege of Udaipur in 1770 A.D. by Madho Rao Scindhia. On the east, Swaroop Sagar is bounded by a solid dam built by Maharana Swaroop Singhji. The present Maharana Sahib, when he was heir-apparent, had an opening made into it with sluice doors (flood gates) fixed to it, so that in the event of there being an overflow from the Pichola Lake, the surplus water can be let out through the gates, and the big embankment, "Badi Pal," saved from danger of giving away.

Maharana Fateh Singhji constructed a canal with sluice gates at its two ends between Pichola and Fateh Sagar. Boats can pass from one lake to the other.

### Fateh Sagar

The lake named Fateh Sagar was built by Maharana Fateh Singhji and is one and a half miles long and one mile broad and 35 feet deep. The length of the embankment is 2,800 feet. The lake contains 558 million cubic feet of water. This reservoir was originally constructed by Maharana Jai Singhji in 1678 A.D. together with the tank at Thur village. The old dam broke down however owing to excessive rain in the time of Maharana Bhim Singhji when the Saheliyon-ki-Badi was destroyed.

Here on the east of the embankment stands the village of Dewali. Hence this piece of water has also come to be known as the tank of Dewali.

Maharana Fateh Singhji built the present embankment. It is very broad, high and strong and cost 6 lakhs of rupees. As its foundation was laid by the Duke of Connaught, the third son of Queen Victoria, the embankment is known as the Connaught Bund, and the tank is named Fateh Sagar after Maharana Fateh Singh.

In the middle of the embankment there is a small marble building known as Moti Mahal, which was originally inside the Kunver Pada Ka-Mahal built by Maharana Karan Singhji, which stood where the building of Shambhu Nivas has now been built by Maharana Shambhu Singhji. Sometime later Maharana Sajjan Singhji who had built Shambhu Pol, with its compound wall and turrets placed this marble structure to the south of Moti Chauk. When Maharana Fateh Singhji started the building of Shiva Nivas palace, he transferred this marble building to its present position, in the centre of the embankment. As this lake had a small basin, a canal was constructed to feed it from the river Ahar, after a dam had been constructed in the river at Chikalvas.

On the southern cliff, are the ruins of Moti Mahal, which was built by Maharana Udai Singhji in 1559 A.D. while a rock on its north, possesses a pinnacled temple of Neemuch Mataji, the family deity of the Kayasths. A fair is held here yearly on the day of Hariyali Amavasya

in the month of Sravan, when thousands of people flock to the place to visit the fair and deity.

A winding road, bounded on one side by a stone wall, runs along the foot of green hills, from the Fateh Sagar canal to the embankment. The water of the Fateh Sagar Nala falls from a great height and presents a fine spectacle. This place has a charm of its own at sunset.

### Saheliyon-ki-Badi

There were many gardens, immediately below the Fateh Sagar embankment to the east. Maharana Fateh Singhji consolidated them into a fine and large pleasure garden. In this garden he installed a cement ornamental pool with chattris and fountains and sitting rooms which are ornamented with paintings and glass mosaics. Four chattris of Paleva (soft black stone) were built on the four corners of the pool. All these five chattris are delicately sculptured. Saheliyon-ki-Badi is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful gardens in India. Besides the enclosed pool with its fountains, there is a lotus pond in the pleasure within the compound wall of the inner garden. At each of its four corners, a marble elephant cut out of a single piece of stone, rains water from its trunk, on to the lotus flowers below. The garden is so picturesque and beautiful that many garden parties to distinguished English guests and even to royalty have been given in it. It is a misnomer to call this beautiful garden, The Slave Girls' Garden, because it was constructed for those maids of Honour of Maharana Sangram Singhji II presented by the Emperor of Delhi in the middle of the 18th century.

Udaipur possesses many temples dedicated to several gods. Amongst a host of temples belonging to Vishnu, Mahesh, Bhavani, Rishabdev and other incarnations of Hindus and Jain scriptures, the most important and worthy of visit is that of Jagdish or Jaggan Nathji.

### Jagdish Temple

In Udaipur the largest temple of Vishnu is the famous pinnacled temple of Jagdish which contains a very large and beautiful four-armed black image of Vishnu. The plinth of this temple is exceptionally high. One has to ascend thirty-two steps to get on to it. Four smaller shrines bearing the idols Surya (Sun), Shakti, Ganapati and Shiva are situated in the passage through which devotees walk round the principal deity. There is a beautiful brass image of Garuda in the chattri in front of Sabha Mandap, the Assembly Hall.

This temple possesses superfine sculpture, which represents a variety of scenes relating to life on this earth, as well as in the world beyond. It was built by Maharana Jagat Singhji I in 1651 A.D. at a cost of 15 lakhs of rupees. Maharana Sangram Singhji II repaired it as it had been ravaged by Mohammedans in the war between Maharana Raj Singhji I and the Emperor Aurangzeb. As at Jagan



Nath Puri, the festival of Rath Yatras (procession of the chariot) is celebrated here on the second day of Ashadsudi 2. The Maharana Sahib visits the place and pulls the chariot himself along the route followed by devotees who circumambulate the deity.

It was not an easy thing in those days to make pilgrimages whenever one liked. So the said Maharana built this temple for the benefit of the devotees of Lord Jagdish.

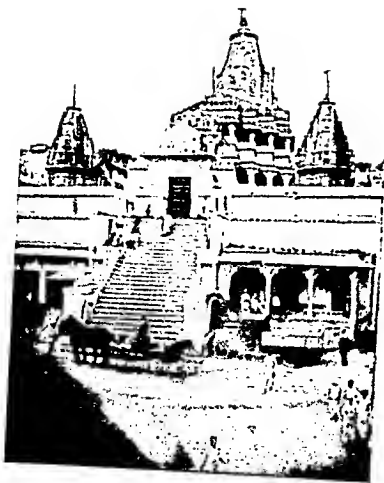
When this temple was constructed the Maharana distributed for the sake of charity, with numerous other charities, a tree called Kalpa Vriksha entirely made of gems. (Kalpa Vriksha, the fabulous tree of the Hindus which fulfils the wishes of any one who sits beneath it.) Its stems, branches, leaves and flowers, all were made of diamonds, rubies, emeralds, pearls, sapphires and corals.

## Defences

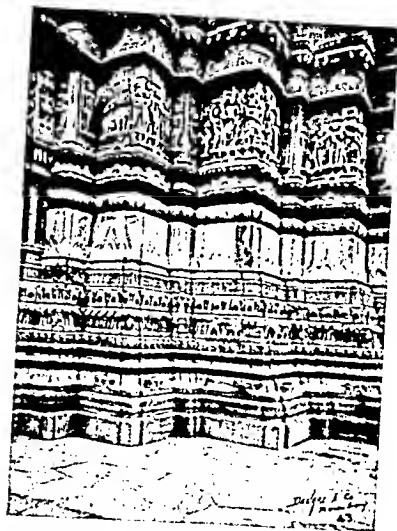
There are no defences of any importance in Udaipur. To the south of the town a hillock, named Chanchla Mangra, is 2,469 feet above sea level. It has a citadel, named Ekling Garh, built by Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.). From here a gun is fired every day at noon and at night. After the night gun fire no one is allowed to roam in the town without a light. Formerly the noon gun fire was timed by a crude time-keeper. The present Maharana Sahib ordered a sun dial to be made and kept at the spot. Now the gun is fired in accordance with it. By order of His Highness the Maharana Sahib, under the guidance of my (author's) elder brothers, Purohit Shumbhu Nath and Mathura Nath, sun dials were constructed and then set up at fort Ekling Garh, Shumbhu Nivas palace, Jag Nivas island palace, New Fateh Prakash palace at Chittorgarh and Jai Samand. One was sent to Partabgarh and another to the Khatmandu Legation in Nepal.

Here there is also a big old-fashioned gun, named Vajra Ban, which was taken up to the citadel with much difficulty at the time when the Maharattas besieged the city of Udaipur. On the accession of Maharana Ari Singhji III to the throne in 1761 A.D. all the leading nobles of the court including those of Bedla, Kotharia, Devgarh, Begun, etc., with the exception of the chiefs of Sadri, Salumbar, Bijolian, Amet, Bancra, Shahpura, Budnore and Ganerao rebelled supporting the pretention of one Ratan Singh pretender to the throne as a son of Maharana Raj Singhji II. They invited Madho Rao Scindhia to help them and he came and besieged the town in 1769 A.D. At that time under the advice of Amar Chand Barwa, small fortifications were erected about the city, viz. Suraj garh outside the Suraj Pol gate, Indragarh outside Udai Pol gate, Ambavagarh outside Amba Pol gate (near Amba Mata), and Sharneshwer garh outside the Delhi gate.

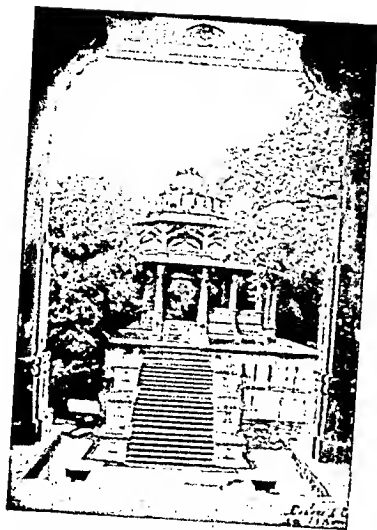
A big gun named Vajra Ban was mounted on the Ekling garh, another named Jagat Shobha, on the turret at the end of the city wall



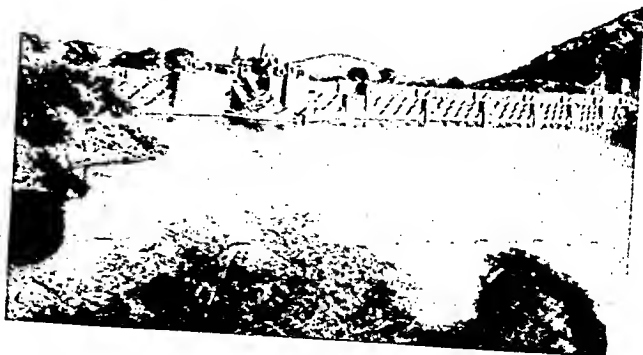
*Jagdish Temple.*



*Engraving at Jagdish Temple.*



*Mahasatiyan (Cenotaphs).*



*Udaisagar.*



outside the Kishen Pol gate ; a third named Shiva Prasana, on the Purohit turret, near the house of Purohitji in front of Ambavagarh ; and a fourth named Katak Bijli on the turret near Amarota. The defences of the town were strengthened and Scindhia had to retire after suing for peace.

There is a terrace outside Delhi gate behind Sharneshwergarh to the east. Formerly on the day of Ashwin Shukla 13, the Maharana Sahib clad in armour and moving in procession used to visit this place. All the people put on armour and elephants and horses were equipped with weapons of war. This procession was discontinued from 1890 A.D.

Below is a general description of other places of interest.

### Chaugan

Outside the Hathi Pol gate there is a big space enclosed by a wall, which is known as the Chaugan. The only building, an assembly hall with a barrier wall (aghad) on the east side, was constructed by Maharana Sangram Singhji II. The round tower, the Hadap terrace in the centre, and the assembly hall and the barrier wall for elephant fights on the north, were built by Maharana Ari Singhji III. Formerly the Maharana Sahib used to pay visits to this place on the birthday of His Highness, Vasant Panchmi, Nagrechonki Satam, Akhshaya Tritia and other occasions, when elephant fights were held. In the Ashwin Navaratri, from second to seventh, the Maharana Sahib used to come in procession here in the morning. On these occasions, after the sacrifice of buffaloes, there used to be elephant fights, wrestling matches, ram and buffalo fights and sports with panthers, hares, foxes, Indian badgers and bears. All these practices have ceased now.

On Kartick Shukla I (Khenkra day) an effigy of Ravan is made in the Chaugan and is then destroyed. Formerly the Maharana Sahib used to visit the fun when races with pairs of horses were held.

### Khejadi Shami Terrace

Outside the western gate of the Residency there is a terrace known as Khejri-ka-Darikhana. At this place there is an Accacia Suma tree. On the evening of the tenth of Ashwin Shukla, the Dassera day, the Maharana Sahib visits this place in a procession and holds a Darbar. When the star has been seen and the worship of the tree is over arrows are sent to all gates of town. It is an old custom, that wherever either on an expedition or any urgent tour, His Highness cannot proceed without the auspicious day and time being first foretold by astrologers. Therefore on this day of Dassera or Vijai Dashmi which is most auspicious for every Rajput after performing the worship of Khejri, these arrows are sent to all gates that may allow to proceed on any urgent expeditions for tour. After the worship of the tree is over, the Maharana Sahib takes presents from all Durbaries and the gun salute is fired. He then returns to the palace in procession.

## Residency

Originally this house was the mansion of the Rawat of Begun. Captain Cobb purchased and repaired it for his residence. As the bungalow at Mairta which was built by Captain Tod was too far from Udaipur and Captain Cobb also was residing there, he transferred his agency here. But Maharana Javan Singhji purchased it for Rs.10,000 and it became a State house. When the Political Agent of Mewar used to come to Udaipur from Neemuch he used to live in this building. On account of the minority of Maharana Shambhu Singhji, when he came to the gadi in 1861 A.D. the Political Agent began to live here at Udaipur in this house. Since then the house has been occupied by the British Resident. The Viceroy, the Commander-in-chief and members of Royal family of His Majesty the King-Emperor who used to stay in the Shumbhu Nivas palace on their visit to Udaipur, now stay here. Maharana Javan Singhji, Sardar Singhji, Swaroop Singhji, Shumbhu Singhji and Sajjan Singhji paid visits to the house and also stayed in it.

It is said that His Excellency Lord Dufferin, Viceroy of India, signed the annexation order for Upper Burma while he was staying here during one of his tours.

Lords Roberts, Elgin, Curzon, Kitchner, Minto, Hardinge, Chelmsford, Reading, Rawlinson, Irwin, Willingdon, Sir Power Palmer, Sir W. Birdwood, Sir John Stanley, His Royal Highness Grand Duke Hesse, His Imperial Majesty King George V (Prince of Wales), His Royal Highness Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur of Connaught, the Crown Prince of Sweden and other distinguished guests have stayed in this Residency.

## Willingdon Hospital

Close to the church the Willingdon Hospital is under construction. The foundation stone was laid by His Excellency the Earl of Willingdon, Viceroy of India, when he visited Udaipur.

## The Church

There is a church of Scotland on the road at the northern angle of the Willingdon Hospital compound outside the Hathi Pole gate.

## Lakshmi Vilas

Visitors to Udaipur and guests stay at three different places. One is a big palatial building known as Lakshmi Vilas. It was originally built as an ordinary bungalow for Mr. Wingate by Maharana Fateh Singhji. The present Maharana made improvements to it and had it furnished suitably for the residence of big princes and distinguished guests. His Highness used to live here. Eminent English men and the Ruling Chiefs of Kotah, Jodhpur, Kashmir, etc., have stayed in it.

## **Anand Bhavan**

There is a new guest house known as Anand Bhavan. It was built by the present Maharana Sahib on a hillock to the east of Hazareshwer Mahadev near the eastern gate of the Residency. Here distinguished European and Indian guests of the State are quartered and entertained.

## **Bagore Mansion**

The third Indian Guest House is the Bagore Mansion.

## **Hotel**

Close to Anand Bhavan, is a good two storied hotel. The charges are ten rupees per day. The present Maharana Sahib has added to it several big rooms and had the whole lit by electricity.

## **Lake View Hotel**

This is a private Hotel recently built near Saroop Sagar.

## **Post and Telegraph Office**

Close to the Hotel and to the south is the Government Post and Telegraph Office. There is a sub-post office in the city.

Previously there used to be a scarcity of water in this quarter of the town, specially near Delhi gate. The present Maharana Sahib built a new cistern outside the Delhi gate and thus relieved the distress of both travellers and animals.

## **Lansdowne Hospital**

There are three chief hospitals in Udaipur, namely the Lansdowne, the Walter Hospital and the Mission Hospital. Maharana Fateh Singhji had a big Hospital constructed in 1891 near the Hathi Pole and named it the Lansdowne Hospital after the then Viceroy.

## **Walter Hospital**

The Walter Hospital is outside the Ganesh Pole gate. It is a hospital for females. Its foundation stone was laid by Lord Dufferin, the Viceroy of India, in 1885 A.D. It was erected in accordance with the plans of Lady Dufferin and was named the Walter Hospital after Colonel Walter, who was then the Resident at Udaipur.

## **Mission Hospital**

The third, a Mission Hospital, was built in Mandi by a Missionary Rev. J. Shepherd, during the time of Maharana Fateh Singhji.

## **Veterinary Hospital**

A small hospital and Veterinary Hospital are in the mansion of Asind near Jagdish Chauk. They were opened by the present Maharana Sahib.

## **The Clock Tower**

The Clock Tower which stands near the Kotwali was built by the Maharana Fateh Singhji. In the lower storey of the Clock Tower is the Department of Kasauti, where the fineness and the quality of gold are tested.

## **Central Jail**

The Udaipur Jail was previously situated in Shamshergarh (built by Maharana Amar Singhji II) outside the Hathi Pole gate. Maharana Sajjan Singhji, however, transferred it and established the Central Jail in the building named Krishna Vilas built by Maharana Karan Singhji (1620-28 A.D.) after having it improved a great deal. Durries and carpets of high quality are manufactured here. They are exported to Europe and America. Besides this hides of tigers, leopard, antelopes, etc., are dyed, tanned and mounted.

## **Poor House**

Maharana Fateh Singh built a poor house outside the Amba Pole gate, behind the temple of Amba Mata, to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria, the Empress of India, in 1897 A.D.

## **Coins**

Formerly coinage of three kinds were current in Udaipur ; Chittori, Udaipuri and Swaroop Shahi. Maharana Fateh Singhji devised a new type of coinage which was to have been cast in the mint at Calcutta. He died, however, before the arrangements had been completed. The scheme was carried through by the present Maharana Sahib, who issued the coins as Chittori and stopped the circulation of the old Chittori, Swaroop Shahi and Udaipuri coins.

## **New Current Chittori Coin**

On one side of this coin appears a representation of the fort of Chittorgarh, with the words " Chitrakut Udaipur " and on the other the words " Dosti London " and V.E. 1985. Its value is 16 annas.

## **Chandori Coin**

The Chandori coin was issued by Maharana Bhim Singhji after the name of his sister Chanda Kunver Bai and its value is 12 annas. It is specially used in gifts and rewards. Chittori coin has eight anna, four anna, two anna and one anna silver pieces.

There are twelve (12) copper pies called Dhinglia making one anna.

## **State Courts, etc.**

The office of the Mahakma Khas is situated at Naula-Kha-palace in Sajjan Nivas garden. The Mahendraj Sabha (the highest of judicature court of the State) is in the building to the south of Bada Chauk

palace. The court of City Magistrate is in the building to the left, as one enters the Badi Pole gate. The court of the Munsiff and the Municipal Office are in the mansion of Asind. The Devasthan Kutcherce and the Rawali Dukan (the State Bank) are outside the Badi Pole gate. The Girva Court is above the lines of orderlies inside the gate known as Bari gate. The Customs and Excise Department is outside the Delhi gate. The Registration Office is in the palace near Tripolian. The Army Headquarter's office is near the Chaugan and near the house of the Commandant, Mewar Army, and the office of the Regular State Forces is in military barracks outside Udaipur. The Revenue Office, the Court of Wards Office and the Office of the Irregular Forces of State are in the lower storey of Shive Nivas Palace. The Settlement Office is near the Residency. The Public Works Department, Irrigation Office and Electric Department and Power House are near Sajjan Nivas garden. The Boundary Settlement and Railway Office are near Chaugan.

The Office of Inspector General of Police is situated on the Pipali Ghat and the Police Lines outside the Hathi Pole gate. There are Police stations in Mandi and Jagdish Chauk.

*The Lines of Infantry and Cavalry* are outside Udaipur Pole gate and the Mewar Lancers are stationed in some old Artillery Lines near the Chaugan.

The Company of Bhils in the service of the State has its quarters outside Suraj Pol gate. Besides beating out game in a hunt, they act as watchmen.

### State Press

A State Press, known as Sajjan Yuntalya, is situated near the garden in the maidan, near a garden in north. The weekly "Sajjan Kirti Sudhakar" combined with the "Mewar Gazette", is published from this press every Monday.

There are also two private presses. One the Bhupal Press near Mission Hospital in Mandi and the other Srikrishna Press inside Suraj Pol gate.

In Udaipur printing of cloth with gold and silver and numerous kinds of dyeing is excellently executed. Swords, spears and knives, gold and silver ornaments are also manufactured. Coats, caps, saris and Angarkhas (long coats reaching up to the ankle) are embroidered finely ; and excellent wooden toys are manufactured.

### Ahar and Mahastiyas

From the Delhi Gate a road runs by Sharneshvergarh to the village of Ahar which is situated on a river of the same name, in the district of Girwa, two miles to the east of Udaipur on North Latitude 24.35. According to the census of 1931 its population was 1,593.

The village was founded by Maharawal Allat who made it his capital. It continued to be the Capital of Mewar up to the eleventh



century of the Vikram era. When Udaipur became the capital, the crematorium of the Maharanas of Mewar was established at Ahar in a big enclosure near Gangodbhava Kund (a sacred reservoir of water) in the Mahasatiyas.

There is a mission school at Ahar. Gun powder is manufactured here.

Recently, the dyeing and printing of saris, gowns and towels and the manufacture of chintzes have been started at Ahar. The water of the Ahar river has proved very useful in the work of printing cloth.

On Falgun Shukla Ekadashi, a fair especially for Bhils is held. Bhils of many villages of the district of Girwa assemble at that time.

To the east there are remains of a town which was established by Assaditya on the ruins of a still earlier town Tombavati Nagri, before the capture of the town of Ujjain by Vikramaditya Tanvar and his ancestors.

At first the village was called Anandpur, afterwards it was known as Ahar. The ruins are now known as Dhulkota.

Four inscriptions of the tenth century A.D. and coins of a still earlier date have been found here. There are relics of a few old Jain temples also, which have excellent carvings on their walls.

At Ahar there is a Kund (a natural reservoir of water) known as Gangodbhava, which is considered to be a very sacred place, and a bath in its water is supposed to confer as much religious merit as one gets from bathing in the holy Ganges. The traditional story about this reservoir of water is as follows : There was once a king named Assaditya. In his time the sacred Ganges burst out from this reservoir and so this is considered sacred.

There is another small reservoir of water in the south of Ahar having a temple of Shiva in its midst, and a few niches are built on its east and west. At the back of this temple there is another small temple which has an idol of Parvati, lying flat on the ground with the face towards the earth. Whenever a woman became a Sati she had first to worship this idol after turning its face, and then lay it back in its original position. The last woman who became a Sati was Aijan Bai, the concubine of Maharana Swaroop Singhji at the funeral pyre of this Maharana. Thiercafter no woman committed Sati as the British Government prohibited this barbarous practice throughout India.

The smaller chattries near the reservoir of water are in memory of distinguished ministers of the State and other courtiers of the Maharana.

The big chattri on the east of the reservoir is erected to the memory of Maharana Amar Singhji I, who died in Udaipur in 1620 A.D. To

the south of this chattri, on the bank of a Nala outside the compound wall of the Mahasatiyas there are two chattries to the memory of Maharana Karan Singhji 1628 A.D. and Maharana Jagat Singhji I. 1652 A.D.

On entering the large compound from the chattries of Maharana Jagat Singhji, through a small door, the first objects which meet the eye are the big platforms raised to the memory of Maharana Jai Singhji (1698 A.D.) and Maharana Raj Singhji I. (1680 A.D.). Maharana Raj Singhji I. died of poison at a village named Ora, near Kumalgarh. A chattri is erected to his memory at that place. As however his queen became Sati here, a chattri was erected on this spot which has never been completed. Maharana Jai Singhji died here. Ill-will between the father and his son may account for the unfinished state of his memorial. Both these princes built two enormous lakes which are named Raj Samand and Jai Samand after their respective names.

In front of these platforms, there are two big and incomplete chattries of white marble to the memory of Maharana Amar Singhji II. 1710 A.D. and Maharana Sangram Singhji II. 1734 A.D.

Close to the south of the platform in memory of Maharana Jai Singhji is a marble platform to the memory of the son of Maharana Sajjan Singhji which is in an unfinished state. Behind this there are marble platforms to the memory of two younger sons of Maharana Fateh Singhji.

Here there is a chattri to the memory of Chand Kunwerbai, the sister of Maharana Bhim Singhji. A coin known as the Chandori rupee was made current in her memory. Chattries to the memories of many Maharanis are erected in the back portion of the compound. Near the southern wall there are structures to the memory of Maharana Amar Singhji II. 1710 A.D. and Sangram Singhji II. 1734 A.D. which were built as temporary structures till the installations of their chattries. Behind them there is a chattri for Kishor Kunver Bai, the third daughter of late Maharana Fateh Singhji and married Maharaja Sirdar Singhji of Jodhpur, and died in Udaipur. This princess of Udaipur was married to one who had a former queen (daughter of Maharao of Bundi) of his living. But in accordance with ancient practice the Udaipur princess was accorded the position of the Chief consort.

In front of this is the chattri of Chavadiji, queen of Maharana Fateh Singhji and mother of present Maharana. In front of the temporary structures of Maharana Sangram Singhji is a chattri for Maharana Javan Singhji (1838 A.D.). Next after this there is a temporary structure for Maharana Partabsinghji II. 1754 A.D. In front of this is the chattri of Maharana Bhim Singhji 1828 A.D. In front of that there is a temporary structure for Maharana Jagat Singhji II. 1751 A.D. and to its south there is another such structure

of Maharana Sajjan Singhji (1884 A.D.) and in the left of this is the chattri of Maharana Ari Singhji III. 1763 A.D. He was treacherously killed in Shikar on the boundary of Mewar and Bundi by Maharao Raja Ajit Singh of Bundi and cremated near Amargarh where his chattri stands, but his queen became Sati here on the receipt of news regarding his demise, and for her a chattri has been built here.

On the left side of the chattri of Maharana Ari Singhji III. there are temporary structures for Maharana Hamir Singhji II. (1778 A.D.) and Maharana Shumbhu Singhji 1874 A.D. and on the left of the latter there are the chattries of Maharana Sardar Singhji (1842 A.D.) and Swaroop Singhji (1861 A.D.)

As no room remained in this compound Maharana Fateh Singhji had the compound wall demolished and built a chattri for Maharana Shumbhu Singhji in front of his own temporary structure and also built a chattri for Maharana Sajjan Singhji in front of the temporary structure of Maharana Jagat Singhji. The bungalow or the temporary structure of Maharana Fateh Singhji is situated between the chattries of Maharana Shumbhu Singhji and Sajjan Singhji. In the east and south corner of the compound is the chattri of Maharana Fateh Singhji. The practice has been that the spot where one is cremated is reserved for erecting a chattri for the deceased. A structure known as a bungalow is erected temporarily at a spot close by. In it a miniature or idol is kept and worshipped. When a chattri is built and idol is installed in it with all religious ceremonies the bungalow or temporary structure is demolished. There are many Maharanas whose chattries have not been built or if built but are incomplete. Therefore they are still worshipped in their temporary structures. Maharana Fateh Singhji sanctioned a sum of one and a quarter lakh of rupees and ordered for the completion of the big chattries of Maharana Amar Singhji II. and Sangram Singhji II. and the building of new chattries for Maharana Raj Singhji II., Jai Singhji I., Jagat Singhji II., Partab Singhji II. and Hamir Singhji II. He commenced their erection in his rule and some have been built and others are under construction.

On the day of Anant Chaturdashi, the Maharana Sahib visits this place and invokes the sacred spirits of his dead ancestors.

To the north, outside the compound wall of the Mahasatias there are chattries to the memories of the members of ruling family, nobles and other high personages.

## Dhulkot

Previously there was a town named Tambavati Nagri to the east of Mahasatias which was destroyed by an earthquake.

It is now known as Dhulkot. To the south of Dhulkot there is a bridge on the river Ahar built by Maharana Shumbhu Singhji and on the east of this bridge is the railway station of Udaipur, the terminus of the Udaipur Chittorgarh Railway. Immediately outside the

railway station is the customs post. Close to the railway "Loco Shop" on the high road outside the station the present Maharana Sahib has built a new inn for travellers at the cost of Rs. 50,000 in memory of his beloved mother Chovadiji Maji Sahiba.

## GOVERDHAN VILAS

Two miles to the south of Udaipur, outside Kishen Polgate on the Kherwara road is situated Goverdhan Vilas. Formerly this place comprised only a few huts and a large reservoir, built by Mana, a foster-brother of Maharana Jagat Singhji II. Maharana Swaroop Singhji erected an enclosure here for cows and used to visit it frequently. As the climate of this place suited him, he built a palace here and made it his residence in 1855 A.D. He also built a tank here named Goverdhan Sagar and on its dam erected a temple of Sri Poshupate Shwar Mahadev. His health so improved and the climate suited him so well here that gradually he made here stables, a barrier wall for elephant fight and a garden and thus enhanced the beauty of this place. His concubine Aijan Bai built the temple of Aijan Swaroop Behariji here. In course of time, houses of chiefs in attendance were also built. There is no doubt that had Maharana Swaroop Singhji lived a little longer, Udaipur and Goverdhan Vilas would have merged into one town under the scheme he had in mind. He made here a hunting preserve, known as Shikarbadi by making an enclosure on the west of Goverdhan Sagar. There he built a small palace and a small tank. He had the scheme to extend it but he died at Goverdhan Vilas in 1861 A.D. and his scheme remained incomplete. He was very fond of elephants and besides making fights across the barrier wall he was fond of seeing elephant fights in the open. For to see this he built a small open palace called Hava Mahal on the hillock east of the palace.

His veneration for cows was so great that he built feeding troughs for them of solid masonry, inside the palace and he used to supervise the feeding of hundreds of cows with sweetmeats of various sorts. Maharana Swaroop Singhji, adopted Maharana Shumbhu Singhji, as his son, on the day of Vijai Dashmi or Dussera one month and four days before his death. Maharana Shumbhu Singhji, Sajjan Singhji and Fateh Singhji used to stay at Goverdhan Vilas several times in the year. The visits of Maharana Fateh Singhji were less frequent when he kept, with great consideration, the queen of the late Maharaja Trilokya Vikram Shah of Nepal. He had called her in 1897 A.D. from Calcutta, where she had fled from Nepal and where she was passing her days in great distress. After living for many years the Maharani died here on the 4th September 1913 A.D. She was cremated in Mahastiyas on the bank of Nulla behind the Big Chattri of Maharana Amar Singhji I.

## The Mansion of Dungarpur Rawalji

To the east of Goverdhan Vilas there is a small tank, named Shyam Talav. On a hillock to the north of its bund there is a mansion belonging to Maharawal of Dungarpur in which he used to stay when he came to Udaipur to visit the Maharana.

## Samina Khera

There is a village named Samina Khera near the Rifle Range to the east of Goverdhan Vilas. Here there is a monastery and a temple of the Sun of the time of Maharana Amar Singhji II. 1698-1710 A.D. built by Goswami Har Nath Giri. The Goswami of Samina Khera instructs the Maharana Sahib concerning the sacred Mantras relating to the Sun. The Maharana Sahib visits this place on Ashad Sukla Punma (Guru Purnima) and Sravan Sukla Purnima (Raskhsa Bandhan) full-moon day.

Harnath Giri, the founder of this monastery was a great sage and Maharana Amar Singhji II. was a great devotee of his. My (author's) ancestor Jagan Nath was also a great devotee of this sage and he (Jagan Nath) had no issue. When this came to the notice of the sage, he told that always add to your name "Nath" and said you will get issue and flourish, since then his family has prospered and Nath has become a family surname.

In Samina Khera there is an old temple of Parash Nathji, in which a fair is held on Posh Shukla 10th.

## Sajjan Garh

To the west of Udaipur, two miles from the Braham Pol Gate is a hill named Bansdara which is 3,100 feet above sea-level and 1,100 feet above the surrounding country. One reaches the top by a winding road nearly two miles long. As this was the highest place in the neighbourhood, Maharana Sajjan Singhji started the construction of a palace for his summer residence. Only one storey and a half was constructed by the time the Maharana died (1884 A.D.). Maharana Fateh Singhji however erected a palace on this hill which contains apartments for ladies, a large gateway, and enclosing wall. The edifice looks its best during the rainy season.

## Jiyan Sagar—Barika Talab

In the hills at a short distance on the north-west of Sajjan Garh, there is an artificial lake named Jiyan Sagar (Bari Ka Talab). It is named after Jana Devi, the mother of Maharana Raj Singhji I, and was built at a cost of 6 lakhs of rupees it was finished on November 15th, 1664 A.D. The Bund is so strong that it sustained no injury when the water overflowed it in 1875 A.D. as a result of excessive rain. The Bund is 600 feet long. The lake has an area of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  square miles and contains 400 millions cubic feet of water.

## Udai Sagar Tank

About eight miles to the east of Udaipur, and to the south of the Debari Pass, is a large and very picturesque lake known as the Udai Sagar. It was built by Maharana Udai Singhji in 1559 A.D. and was formally opened in 1565 A.D. Below its Bund are the ruins of a palace, built by Maharana Jagat Singhji I 1628-52 A.D. This building was erected to provide a view of the cascade of water from the Udai Sagar but as it stood behind the Bund, view of the tank could not be obtained from it. Therefore Maharana Fateh Singhji, built on a hillock named Medi Mangri, on its western bank, a stately palace with two stories and named it Udai Nivas.

The cascade has been constructed by cutting an opening in the hill to the south of the Bund. The water here falls from a height of many feet and is known after some distance as the river Berach. This lake has a basin of 185 square miles. The 900 feet long and 180 feet wide Bund built between two ranges of hills, is so strong that it suffered no damage when the water passed over the top during the heavy rainfall of 1875 A.D.

A short time after the accession of Maharana Partap Singhji I on the throne in 1572 A.D. the Emperor Akber led an expedition against Gujerat and sent Kunver Man Singh of Amber (Jaipur) to Udaipur who went there via Dungarpur. To entertain him the Maharana arranged for a feast on this Bund. The Maharana did not attend the feast personally but sent his son Kunver Amar Singh to entertain the guest. When Kunver Man Singh sat down to dine and did not notice the Maharana he inquired about the cause of his absence. In reply Kunver Amar Singh said that the Maharana had a pain in his stomach and therefore could not come. Kunver Man Singh thought that the Maharana had personally rudely avoided him, because his aunt had been married to Akber. He sent a message therefore to the Maharana saying he did not know of a cure for stomach that until he had wished the Maharana well he should be careful. The Maharana then replied that if Kunver Man Singh would lead an attack alone he (the Maharana) would meet him at Malpura, but that if he was to be aided by his aunt's husband (Akber) then he (the Maharana) would meet them wherever they could.

Kunver Man Singh narrated the whole story of his disgrace to Akber. The Maharana had the spot on the Bund where Kunver Man Singh had sat it washed with Ganges water, after having dug up and the gold and silver which had been used by his guest thrown into the lake. Owing to the enmity Akber sent an army against Maharana Pratap Singhji under the command of Man Singh. Then, the famous battle of Haldi Ghat (near Khamnore) took place, where after defeating the Haraval (advance guard) of the Imperial forces, the Maharana returned to Koliari in hills.

In 1707 A.D. the Emperor Shah Alam Bahadur Shah forfeited the territories of the Prince of Jodhpur and Amber. At that time, Maharaja Swai Jai Singhji of Amber and Maharaja Ajit Singhji of Jodhpur, accompanied the Emperor to the river Nerbada, and then hopeless of their land being returned, came straight to Maharana Amar Singh II at Udaipur. At that time the first meeting took place in the palace behind the Bund of the Udai Sagar. After that they were taken to Udaipur with great pomp and ceremony. As neither of these princes had chawners at that time, the Maharana gave them.

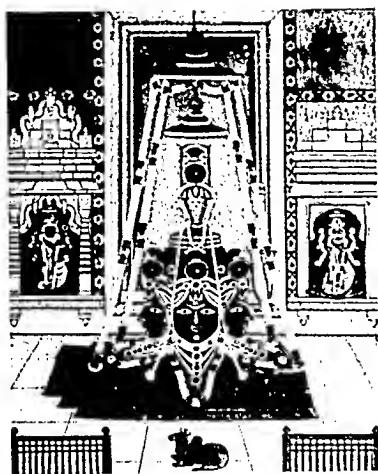
As these princes had married their daughters to the Moghuls, the house of Mewar had ceased entering into matrimonial alliance with them. The Maharana agreed on this occasion to establish relationship with them, they on their part agreeing that a daughter of the House of Mewar would be made the chief consort, even though she should have at marriage a co-wife senior to her, and that a son born of a princess of the house of Mewar would succeed to the throne, even if he were younger than a son born of another queen. After this agreement the Maharana placed his army at the services of the two princes, which expelled the Imperial forces from their territories. Udaipur and the places of interest round about it having been described a brief account of other places in Mewar will now follow.

### SRI EKLINGJI

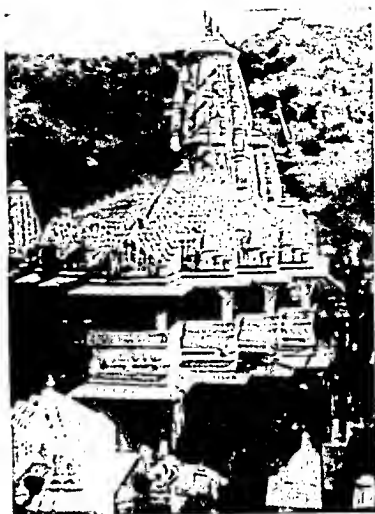
The well-known large and ancient temple of Sri Eklingji, the Lord of Mewar, is situated in Kailashpuri 14 miles to the north of Udaipur. In olden days a difficult path over the hill led to it. Maharana Sajjan Singhji, 1874-84 A.D., had made an easy graded road along the side of the hills. The gate on the Chirva Pass was in a delapidated condition and so Maharana Fatch Singhji had it rebuilt. At the foot of the pass at Udaipur at a village named Amberi, Jhali, queen of Maharana Shumbhu Singhji, built a Dharamshala for the use of pilgrims near a stepwell. At the other end of the pass near the Rana stepwell, there was a ruined building by the side of the road. It was repaired recently by the present Maharana Sahib.

Beyond is a small garden named Parbati Vilas by the side of the road and on the bank of the Bagela tank. A little farther on is the Bund of Bagela and the first entrance to Kailshapuri, known as Ganesh Pol. Bagela tank was built in memory of Bagh Singh, the younger brother of Maharana Mokal (1418-33 A.D.).

On the western bank of the Bagela tank is a village called Nagda, which was an old capital of Mewar and was founded by Raja Nagaditya. It now consists of three huts inhabited by six men. It contains the temple of Adbhuta Baba of the Jains, and a temple of Sas Bahu, which are ancient and possess excellent sculpture. Bapa Rawal ruled at this place. The idol of Adbhuta Baba in a sitting position is nine feet high. The temple of Sas Bahu in the middle of the tank is



*Shree Eklingji.*



*Kailashpuri. (Temple of Shri Eklingji.)*



*Maharawal Bapji.*



*Shri Nathji.*



religious obligations. His Highness thus sets a lesson to others regarding the sincerity with which one should serve one's master.

The idol of the sage Rishi, whose kindness brought about the pleasure of Sri Eklingsi on Baga Kaval is in front of the temple of Vindhyaswami at the mouth of the cave in Ekanthi. His disciples are the Gurus of Sri Eklingsi. The Gurus live in a monastery inside the compound of the temple. He worships Sri Eklingsi thrice a day. Formerly Nari Tegenhar was the Guru of Sri Maharaja Rani Singhji (1612-1633 A.D.) noticed a deterioration in the life towards him. His Highness removed him and his sect (Nath) and appointed in his stead a Sanyasi ascetic named Rama Nand, who had been called from Kurin (Benares) in 1628 A.D. (Sanyasi is highest and most sacred in Hindu life and are strict vegetarians). Since then the Gurus have belonged to this order (Sanyasi) of ascetics. Their worship of the deity is performed daily according to directions in the 7 ahims. The food offerings to the deity are given to the poor, travellers and pilgrims. If any one wishes to get food here he can get it as charity. The temple of Sri Eklingsi was built originally by Maharawal Raja Rani Singhji Maharaja Rani Singhji II in the end of 14th century). It was greatly ruined during a series of wars and so it was repaired by Maharaja Rani Singhji (1612-1633 A.D.) who also built a strong wall around it. Maharaja Rani Singhji built the large temple and near it in the north built a small temple of green architectural style, known as the temple of Minor Kali. The big temple was damaged in the wars of the time of Maharaja Rani Singhji. Maharaja Rani Singhji (1612-1633 A.D.) built the present temple and installed the present idol with the following in it.

From the small eastern door of the temple as one moves from the gateway of Ekanthi, Bhakti, one arrives at the embankment of the Bhakti river. In the foreground, built by Maharawal Raja, Maharaja Rani Singhji (1612-1633 A.D.) constructed the beautiful dome of marble and also the pillars on the south and on the south-west which are known as Minor Kali and Major Kali. The Maharaja of Kurin built on the south a temple near the pillars towards the south, while the temple on the east was built by the Maharaja of Rajpur.

To the north and outside the wall of the temple on the left side of the road, there are temples of Sri Rani and Vindhyaswami. On the right side of the road at the mouth of the cave of Bhakti, there is a temple of Sri Rani. On the right of this road at the end is the entrance to the temple of Bhakti.

There is an old Bhakti Shala (the temple) inside the temple. Maharaja Rani Singhji built another big Bhakti Shala on the side of the road towards the river. This road passes through the centre of the village through a forest. The present Maharaja Shri has built a very comfortable room on this road, where he himself resides.

also wonderfully carved and ornamented. From Ganesh Pol, a paved path leads to Kailashpuri by the side of Sri Dhareshwerji and Takshak Kund. The new road goes through the Ganesh Pol gate, on the side of a small hill and reaches the town near a new inn. This village had a population of 708 persons in 1931 A.D. It has a dispensary where indigenous medicines are dispensed. A strong wall of stones having a small door on the east, and a gate on the west, encloses the temple of Sri Eklingji.

Only Hindus are allowed to enter the big gate, proceed to the porch and then have a sight of the deity. Musalmans may see the deity either from the gate on the south or from a place towards the west near the elephant statues.

Nobody is permitted to enter the temple with his socks on or with weapons. Socks have to be taken off at the outer gate. Inside the holy of holies blue clothes are prohibited. Bapa Rawal obtained the kingdom of Mewar and had a vision of Eklingji through the kindness of the sage Harita. He built the temple of Eklingji and the Bhojela tank (also named Indra Sarover). It is said that this tank was once named Indra Sarover, because Indra was cured of leprosy after having bathed in it.

"Kal Bhoj" was the real name of the great Rawal who attained the celebrity under the title of "Bapa Rawal." He captured the fort of Chittorgarh from Raja Man Mori in 734 A.D. His conquests went as far as Khorassan. He took a vow of asceticism in Eklingji in 753 A.D. and was buried at Karabadi, where his Samadhi Mandir exists to-day.

Maharawal Bapa (Kalbhoj) obtained the kingdom of Mewar through the kindness of Sri Eklingji. So Sri Eklingji is the principal deity which the Maharanas of Mewar worship. The Maharanas who have administered the State as "Dewan of the deity" have been known as the "Dewans." At the time of his enthronement the Maharana goes to worship Sri Eklingji. When the worship is finished the Goswamiji invests the Maharana with a sword, a dress of honour and the symbols of royalty. Every order or document of the State is superscribed with the words "Sri Eklingji." The Maharana Sahib goes to worship the deity during the months of Sravan, Kartick, Falgun and Vaishakh. In the month of Vaishakh, His Highness after his worship, draws water himself from a well in a gold pot and fills with it the Jaleri, the vase from which water trickles on to the idol of Sri Eklingji. These visits of His Highness are customary as a rule but His Highness pays visits at other times of the year also according to his pleasure.

When His Highness enters the compound of the temple to visit the deity, he places a gold stick on his shoulders. It is a sign of the spirit of devotion of His Highness towards the Great God. It indicates also, that although he is the ruler of a big State, he does not lay aside his

religious obligations. His Highness thus sets a lesson to others regarding the sincerity with which one should serve one's master.

The idol of the sage, Harita, whose kindness brought about the pleasure of Sri Eklingji on Bapa Rawal, is in front of the temple of Vindhya Vasini, at the mouth of the cave in Bharatri. His disciples are the Goswamis of Sri Eklingji. The Goswami lives in a monastery inside the compound of the temple. He worships Sri Eklingji thrice a day. Formerly Nath Yogeshwer was the Goswami, but as Maharana Jagat Singhji I (1628-52 A.D.) noticed a deterioration in the life towards Vam Marga, His Highness removed him and his sect (Nath) and appointed in his stead a Sanyasi ascetic, named Rama Nand, who had been called from Kashi (Benares) in 1628 A.D. (Sanyasi is highest and purest mood in Hindu life and are strict vegetarians). Since then the Goswamis have belonged to this order (Sanyasi) of ascetics. Here worship of the deity is performed duly, according to directions in the Vedas. The food offerings to the deity are given to the poor, travellers and visitors. If any one wishes to get food here he can get it as charity. The temple of Sri Eklingji was built originally by Maharawal Bapa (Kal Bhoj) Maharana Hamir Singhji I (in the end of 14th century). It was partly ruined during a series of wars and so it was repaired by Maharana Mokalji (1421-33 A.D.) who also built a strong wall around it. Maharana Kumbhaji built this large temple and near it in the north built a small temple of great architectural skill, known as the temple of Miran Bai. The big temple was damaged in the wars of the time of Maharana Udikaran. Maharana Rai Malji (1413-1508 A.D.) built the present temple and installed the present idol with vedic rites in it.

From the small eastern door of the temple as one mounts from the garden of Umariya, Bhairava, one arrives at the embankment of the Bhojela tank (Indra Sarover), built by Maharawal Bapa. Maharana Raj Singhji (1652-80 A.D.) constructed the beautiful dam of marble and also the palace to the south and to the south-west, which are known as Kunver Pada Ka Mahal. The Maharao of Kotah built on this bund, a temple near the palace towards the south, while the temple on the west was built by the Maharaja of Jaipur.

To the north and outside the wall of the temple on the left side of the road, there are temples of Ban Mataji and Vindhya Vasinji. Opposite to this at the mouth of the cave of Bhartari, there is a temple of the sage Harita. On the right of this road to the east is the cremation ground of the Chiefs of Delwara.

There is an old Dharam Shala for travellers inside the town. Maharana Fateh Singhji built another big Dharam Shala on the side of the road near the tower. The road passed through the centre of the village through a door. The present Maharana Sahib has built a very comfortable room on this door, where he himself resides.

At a little distance from Indra Sarover to the east there is a temple of Sri Rashtsenji (Rathashanji Goddess), on the top of a hill from which a view of very distant parts of Mewar can be seen.

Each Maharana offers the Deity, jewels, villages, etc. Maharana Raj Singhji gave away in charity here precious jewels equal to the weight of his body. The present Maharana, along with other jewellery, has offered a gold Jalahari set with diamonds worth four lacs of rupees.

## UNTHALA

Unthala is a village in the district of "Outer Girwa" at a distance of 18 miles to the east of Udaipur and six miles from Nahar Magra. It is the headquarters of an Assistant District Officer of the Girwa district.

According to the census of 1931 A.D. population of Untala was 1,896 persons. There is a hospital in the village. The village has a famous temple of Shitla Mataji to which persons from distant parts come to worship. There was one Police Station here dating back to times Moghul Empire during the time of Maharana Amar Singhji I. The Maharana when he conquered it settled the dispute of the two clans, Chondavats and Saktavats, regarding their right to "Haraval" (Vanguard of the Army). According to custom, when the Maharana's forces were in camp, the Chondavats, were the Vanguard, the right was formed by the Jhalas, the left was formed by the Chawhans, the Panvars and the Rathors, and the rear guard was composed of Saktavats. In the time of Maharana Amar Singhji I, the Saktavats laid claim to be placed in the Vanguard. The Maharana then declared that whoever would conquer and enter the fortress of Unthala first, would in future be the Vanguard. The Chondavats attacked the wall of the fortress and simultancously the Saktavats attacked the gate. Krishnavat Jait Singh, the commander of the Chondavats attempted to scale the wall by a ladder ; and Ballu, the leader of the Saktavats, ordered the Mahawat of his elephant to force his elephant to break down the door of the gate and enter in. As spiked spear heads were fixed to the gate, the Mahawat replied that the elephant would not batter it down. On hearing this, Ballu, the Saktavat leader, got up and stood on the spear heads projecting from the gate and ordered his Mahawat to force the elephant to charge his back. The Mahawat drove the elephant against his body and the gate was broken open. On the other side Krishnavat Rawat Jait Singh scaled the wall and immediately received a bullet wound from the garrison within. He reeled and sank to the ground. He then ordered his companions to sever his head from his body and to throw it into the fort. The head was cut off and thrown into the fortress. The Saktavats then entered the fortress after breaking through the gate. As however, the head of Rawat Jait Singh Krishnavat (Salumbar) had fallen into the fortress, before the Saktavats entered, the Chondavats retained the honour of being the Vanguard.

A story current at the time of this assault is that, the Imperial Thanedar, Kaimkhan, was engaged in playing chess. He was so busy in playing that when he received information of the attack, all he said was "Flight." Fighting took place and when at last the Maharana's army conquered the fort and the brave officers of Mewar entered it, they arrived at the place where he was playing chess, and they wanted to kill him. He implored them to spare him till his game was over.

It was at Unthala, about this time that Kali Mehga Chandavat, the Rawat of Begun, with a small army, put to flight Mahabat Khan, the celebrated general of Emperor Jehangir by a clever ruse.

When Mahabat Khan came to conquer Mewar. He pitched his camp at Unthala. Rawat Megh Singh made his attack as follows :—

In the evening he sent his brave Rajput soldiers in the guise of cultivators to the enemy's camp, driving before them about 15 or 20 buffaloes which were laden with fireworks, which appeared to look like melons. At night a cloth soaked in oil, was tied round the horns of the buffaloes and set alight, and the whole drove was marched to the camp of Mahabat Khan. There was an alarm in his camp that the enemy had come. As the fireworks arrived at the entrance of Mahabat Khan's camp they were fired. During the confusion that ensued Rawat Megh Singh made an assault with 500 horsemen. Mahabat Khan sought safety in flight and Rawat Megh Singh plundered his camp.

## NAHAR MAGHRA

Fourteen miles to the east of Udaipur and two miles to the south of Khemli Railway Station of Udaipur Chittorgarh Railway is Nahar Magra. Maharana Sangram Singhji II (1710-34 A.D.) built an enclosure for games and a palace on the banks of a small river. He built several shooting boxes and made a preserve of this jungle. On account of its healthy climate this village has been the winter resort for several months of almost all Maharanas. It possesses a race-course and there is good pigsticking. Maharana Shumbhu Singhji, Sajjan Singhji, Fateh Singhji and the present Maharana Sahib improved this place greatly by building palaces, stables and several shooting boxes and by laying out gardens. Maharana Fateh Singhji built a fine tank near the village of Khemli. When the tank is full, its water comes right up to the railway line.

## SRI RISHABHDEVJI

A village named Rishabhdevji (or Dhulev) is situated 40 miles south of Udaipur and 10 miles on the north of Kherwara. It had a population of 2,252 persons in 1931 A.D. The village has a post office, a Hindi school and a hospital. There is a quarry of fine black stone which stone is used in making cups, goblets and images of God. Rishabhdevji is one of the ten incarnations of God Vishnu, and this

is why the Maharana Sahib worships this idol when he visits the village and has offered a village for the deity's worship and food. Maharana Fateh Singhji presented to the idol an Angi (an ornamental texture for the decoration of the idol) studded with diamonds and worth 2½ lakhs. The Jains consider Rishabhdevji to be a very holy place of pilgrimage and they visit it from all parts of India.

As saffron is the chief offering to this idol it is called "Kesaria Nath." The Bhils call it "Kalaji" on account of its black form. The Bhils have so much reverence for the Deity, Rishabhdevji, that if they swear by him after putting in their mouth a little sacred saffron, they would never tell a lie, but remain firm in their vows, even when put to torture. With the exception of the temple of Vishveshwar in Kashi (Benares) this is the only sacred place in the whole of India where everyone can worship. So whatever may be the cost of the Angi which a devotee offers, it must be removed when another devotee commences his worship despite the fact that he may only have to offer saffron worth perhaps about two pice, whereas in the temple of Vishveshwar at Kashi, only high class Hindus are allowed to worship, here at Rishabhdevji, the Bhils and other low caste people have equal rights of worship.

The idol of Adi Nath of Rishabh Nath is a figure in a sitting position being carved out of fine black stone. It is three feet high and dates back to the 15th century.

The place has several Dharamshalas for travellers. Motor cars, tongas and bullock carts are used to convey visitors from Udaipur. The charges for a seat in motor from Udaipur is Rs. 2-8 per person.

## JAI SAMAND

The famous tank named Jai Samand is 32 miles south of Udaipur and is situated in the district of Magra. Its elevation is 969 feet above sea level, and its basin covers 690 square miles. This lake with its area of 21 square miles and its greatest length 9 miles, breadth 6 miles and depth of 102 feet, contains twenty thousand million cubic feet of water. The hills on its western side have heights ranging from 800 to 1,000 feet above the water. Its islands with small trees on them and the picturesque huts of fishermen on its banks add to the beauty of this sheet of water which is one of the greatest made by man in the world. This sea of fresh water was constructed by Maharana Jai Singhji in 1685 A.D. by damming the river Gomti. When the dam was completed and opened on 2nd June 1691 A.D. the Maharana at that time, according to religious ceremonies, walked around it and gave in charity gold equal to his own weight. It is called as Jai Samand after the name of the said Maharana. The length of the retaining embankment is 1,202 feet and its height is 116 feet. The thickness of the masonry at the base is 70 feet and on the top is 16 feet. Maharana Fateh Singhji constructed a temple on the embankment in which is the image of Shiva. He also had a second storey put to the Rest

House on the bund on the south and converted a large assembly chamber by adding an upper storey a building (Palace) for his own use in the north. The present Maharana Sahib added to the southern building and made it a comfortable Guest House for Europeans. In the intervening spaces between the two houses and on both sides of the temple in the centre chattries have been built on the embankment. A few hundred yards towards the west of this embankment there is another one to strengthen the original. In 1875 A.D. the water in the lake rose to within 9 feet top of the embankment. Maharana Sajjan Singhji therefore had the intervening space filled in with earth.

Maharana Jai Singhji when building this artificial lake had a palace also built, which is now called the fort and also another building on a steep to the east. He also had constructed a palace on the ridge, jutting into the water, with arched fountains, water tanks and outhouses now in ruins. He founded a town named Jasnagar which however is now depopulated. Maharana Fateh Singhji has all the buildings restored and renovated. He named the building which was constructed specially to enjoy the beautiful scenery the Hall of Winds. It was formerly named the Horse Breaker. The story why this place was called the Horse Breaker's palace is as follows :—

A certain horse breaker was once ordered to gallop a horse on the other embankment which is twelve feet wide. The horse breaker galloped his horse twice from this end to another and in the third turn turned back in full gallop from the middle. (At that time this 929 feet long and 100 feet high wall was empty to the bottom on both sides.) The Maharana was so pleased that he wished to give a reward to the horse breaker. The horse breaker, however, prayed that a building might be named, the Horse Breaker's Palace. The Palace was accordingly built and named as such.

Maharana Sajjan Singhji turned this place into the Headquarter of the district Magra but after the Bhil Mutiny of 1879 A.D. they were shifted to Sarada. On that occasion forts were built at Bhourai and at Jawar, for the effective subjugation of the Bhils. The palace on the hill was also repaired and a garden was laid out, below the embankment, near the cutchery. Maharana Fateh Singhji not only repaired the old palace but laid out a charming garden having a palace in it, in place known as Dhimra, 2 miles towards the west of the embankment, wild Sambhars and pigs are fed here. This Maharana also built many shooting boxes in the game preserves in the hills. Some of these might almost be called summer palaces. He had a canal made which leads out of this lake and this has increased the area under irrigation very considerably. No distinguished person who visits Udaipur fails to see Jai Samand. Maharana Fateh Singhji has made a metalled road from Udaipur to Jai Samand suitable for motor cars. On this road he built small palaces, Kevadan and Palodra.

There is one steam boat and eleven rowing boats on Jai Samand. The Bhils make Bheelas, rough boats, which they use on this lake. Recently the cultivation of sugarcane has been started and irrigated by this lake in this district.

## CHAVAND

Chavand is a village 32 miles to the south of Udaipur and 12 miles to the west of Jai Samand. Its population, in 1931 was 1,426 souls. Maharana Partap Singhji I. spent the last ten years of his life at this place. He had then reasserted his supremacy over all the territory which he had previously lost to the Moghul Emperor of Delhi, except the forts of Chittor and Mandalgarh. He built himself a palace here and temple to the Goddess of Sri Chanvandji. He died here in 1595 A.D. A chattri built to his memory still exists.

## JAWAR

It is a police station in the district of Magra and is 18 miles south of Udaipur. There are lead, silver and iron mines here, which were a large source of revenue to the State previously, but for many years they have not been worked because the cost of working proved to be greater than the value of the output.

Rama Bai the daughter of Maharana Kumbhaji was married to Mandlik, the Yadava Raja of Girnar, but as an alienation took place between the husband and the wife, Kunver Prithviraj brought Rama Bai here during the time of Maharana Rai Malji and conferred Jawar upon her. Rama Bai built the temple of Rama Swami and a large stepwell (Kund). On the hill named Jawar Mala, there is a cave in which Maharana Pratap Singhji I. lived with his Zenana, while fighting against Akber. It was in Jawar that Maharana, Mokalji defeated Firoze Khan of Nagore. At the time of the Bhil Mutiny in 1879 Maharana Sajjan Singhji built a fort at Jawar.

## SARADA

Sarada, the headquarter of the district of Magra is 35 miles to the south of Udaipur. The population in 1931 A.D. was 696. There is a small hillock which has a fort on it in which the district officer lives. This place has a hospital and post office. The inhabitants in this district of Magra mostly consist of Bhils who live in scattered cottages known as Pals.

Maharana Sirdar Singhji established a cantonment at Kherwara to keep the Bhils under control and Maharana Swaroop Singhji had to punish them for misconduct. They again rebelled in 1879 A.D. in the time of Maharana Sajjan Singhji. They were then punished and suitable arrangements were made to counteract their raiding, robberies, etc., by the construction of a fort at Bhonrain and Jawar, which were also made police stations. Maharana Fateh Singhji built a fort at Metudi.



## KHERWARA

The mountainous region to the south-west of Mewar is called the Bhomat. It consists of a belt of thick jungles and densely wooded hills. The Maharanas of Mewar lived in these hills of the Bhomat during the time they were resisting the encroachments of the Moghuls for a number of years. The district is divided into a number of subdivisions known as Kherwara Bhomat and Kotra Bhomat. Kherwara Bhomat comprises Jawas, Madri, Pahadan, Thana Chani and other small Bhomia Jagirs. The Kotra Bhomat comprises the Jagirs of the Bhomias of Juda, Panarva, Oga, etc. Kherwara where the Superintendent lives is the chief civil station of this district and it is also the Headquarters of the Mewar Bhil Corps established by Maharana Sirdar Singhji 1838-42 A.D.

### KHERWARA CANTONMENT

Kherwara Cantonment is 50 miles to the south of Udaipur. It is 1,050 feet above sea-level. The population was 1,899 in 1931 A.D. Besides a military school and hospital it has a civil hospital, a post office and a Dak Bungalow. The Missionaries have a church and a Hindi School here.

Recently the sole administrative control of the Bhomat (hilly tracts of Mewar) was made over to the Mewar Darbar and the Hakim (District Officer) of the Bhumat resides here and is styled Kherwara Hakim. Fifteen miles from this cantonment to the south-east is Dungarpur.

## KOTRA

The principal station of the sub-division of Kotra is situated near the confluence of river Vakal and Sabarmati and is 38 miles on the south-west of Udaipur and 34 miles from the railway station of Roheda on the B. B. & C. I. Railway (Metre-Gauge). In 1931 A.D. its population was 929. One Company of the Mewar Bhil Corps is stationed here and is under the control of an Indian officer. This place has a post office, a small Hindi School and a Hospital.

On the bank of river Vakal near Madra stands the fort of Raghavgarh, built by Raghavadev, the Chief of Dilwara. There is a police station here.

Near the village of Nayagaon in this district on a hill named Harva is a palace and fort built by Maharana Amarsinghji I. (1597-1620 A.D.), where he lived during the Moghul wars. In this district there is a hill named Ahor near the village of Amod, in the neighbourhood of Bichavada in the Jagir of Jharol. Having the temple of Kamal Nath Shiva, this hill is also known as Kamal Nath. On the top of this hill Maharawal Karan Singhji built a fort long ago. Maharana Kumbhaji restored it. In the Moghul wars Maharana Partap Singhji I. and Amar Singhji I. lived here.

## CHITTORGARH

Chittorgarh the headquarter of the district officer of Chittor is situated on the banks of the river Gambhiri on 24°53 latitude and 74°39 longitude. It is 67 miles to the north-west of Udaipur and 2 miles to the east of Chittor Railway Station. It had a population of 6,177 persons in 1931 A.D. A metalled road passing over a bridge on the river Gambiri built by Khizar Khan, the son of Emperor Allauddin Khilji, runs from the railway station to the town. Maharana Fateh Singhji built a dharamshalla near the railway station and also a Dak Bungalow. Travellers are able to obtain food easily from the shops situated near the Railway Station. Tongas are usually available at the railway station. A lorry also runs now-a-days. The present Maharana Sahib has built a new palace named Bhupal Bhawan to the north of the Dak Bungalow. Maharaja Umed Singhji of Jodhpur encamped at this palace and shot 13 tigers in the district during the month of May 1932 A.D.

There is a cotton ginning mill at a short distance from the Railway Station. A high school and Post and Telegraph Offices are situated outside the town beyond the bridge gate. There is a hospital near Padal Pol, the first entrance to the fort in the vicinity of which the residence of the District Officers and the courts are situated. As at Jaipur, Calico is printed at Chittor in figures of red and black for towels, dupattas, handkerchiefs, bed sheets, coverlets, some of which are exported to foreign countries. Besides this, saris having the design of "Chunars" are dyed here in fast red and black. At Hamirgarh in the district of Chittor, a station on the B. B. & C. I. Railway, Pomchas (garments for women) of a fast black colour are manufactured and exported extensively.

## FORT CHITTORGARH

Chittorgarh, the old capital of Mewar, was at one time the only refuge of Hinduism in Northern India. Practically all the Mohamadan Kings attacked it some time or other over a period of many years and many a time it fell into Mohammadans' hands.

Tradition says that the fort of Chittor was built by the Pandava Bhima. Years afterwards King Chitrangad Mori made Chitrang tank and palace and named the fort Chitrakut. Then Maharawal Bapa took it from Man Mori a descendant of Chitrangad Mori in 734 A.D. Nagada, however, continued to be the capital of Mewar. Towards the end of the middle of the thirteenth century Sultan Shamshuddin Altamash of Delhi attacked Nagda during the reign of Maharawal Jaitra Singhji 1213-53 A.D.

Though the Sultan was repulsed, Nagda was ruined. So Maharawal Jaitra Singhji made Chittorgarh his capital and it continued to be so upto 1567 A.D. during the time of Maharana Udai Singhji. During this period it was the scene of many great battles. Its sacks on three

occasions are especially noteworthy for the enormous sacrifices of lives of brave Rajputs in the defence of their land, liberty and religion. It sinks however into insignificance before the more awful self-immolation of women, by fire in order to save their honour and chastity which have won them perpetual glory. The first of these sacks which is associated with the name of Padmani took place in 1303 A.D. when Allauddin, the Emperor of Delhi, attacked this fort. On this occasion Maharawal Ratan Singhji fought bravely but when after a siege of six months, food became scarce inside the fort, he opened its gates, attacked the enemy and was killed. The Queen Padmani flung herself into a burning fire, together with thousands of women and thus she saved her honour. The fort then passed into the hands of the Emperor of Delhi. Rana Lakhsaman Singh (Garh Lakhsaman Singh) the descendant of Rana Rahap, the younger son of Maharawal Karan Singhji, came from Shishoda with his eight sons to take part in this struggle and fell on the battlefield with seven of his sons, one of whom was Ari Singh. The one son who survived Ajaya Singh, went to Kelwara having been wounded and he lived there. After the death of Maharawal Ratan Singhji the son of Rana Lakhsaman Singh of Shishoda, sat on the throne and ruled Mewar. Allauddin Khilji, after taking the fort, handed over to the charge of his son Khizar Khan who lived there for many years and had a bridge constructed on the river Gambhiri.

However the Rana who lived in Kelwara, troubled him constantly and in consequence this Prince Khizar Khan made Rao Maldev Sonigra of Jalore, as the Governor of that fort (Chittor) and he himself then left the place. In about 1326 A.D. Maharana Hamir Singhji I got back possession of the fort which then remained in the hands of the Ranas, until 1535 A.D. when Bahadur Shah, the Sultan of Gujrat attacked it in the time of Maharana Vikramadityaji. The Maharana betook himself to Bundi and after a terrible war Queen Karnavati performed the awful Jauhar with thousands of other female followers. Thereafter Gujrati troops occupied the fort. This was the second sack of Chittor. Shortly afterwards on the flight of Bahadur Shah, the Chiefs of Mewar again took possession of the fort and from that time upto the invasion of Akbar in 1568 A.D. it was in the hands of Maharanas and was the capital of Mewar. On the last occasion the Maharana having placed the fort in charge of his generals, went to the hills to the west. The Rajputs, owing to all provisions being exhausted in the fort and fighting recklessly, were killed to a man. They opened the doors of the fort also because their women-folk had performed Jauhar at three places. The Emperor then occupied the fort but Maharana Udai Singhji, Partap Singhji I and Amar Singhji I who lived in the hills of Udaipur waged constant warfare with the Moghals.



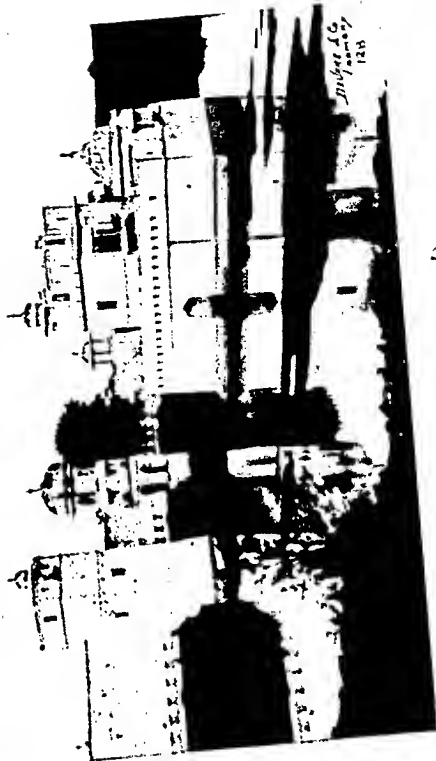
Badli Mahal Garh (Chittorgarh).



Hingulwada Palace (Chittorgarh).



Fateh Prakash Palace (Chittorgarh).



Padmani Palace (Chittorgarh).



Forty-seven years later in 1615 A.D. on the conclusion of a peace between the Maharana Amar Singhji I and the Emperor Jehangir, the fort came again into the possession of the Maharana Karan Singhji, Jugat Singhji I and Raj Singhji I effected repairs to it but it fell into the hands of the Mughals again in 1678 A.D. on the outbreak of a war with Aurangzeb. At some place near the foot of this fort Prince Jai Singh attacked the Emperor's son Prince Azam and plundering his camp, seized war drums, battle standards and other warlike things.

Maharana Jai Singhji in 1680 A.D. ascended the throne on the death of Maharana Raj Singhji I on the conclusion of a truce with Aurangzeb the fort yet again came to the Maharana. Since then there has been no fighting of any importance. Doubtless during the time of the Maharatta rebellion in the reign of Maharana Hamir Singhji II, Berajitakpir, the son-in-law of Madho Rao Scindhia, desired to loot Chittor, but he was repulsed by the Maharana's younger brother, Bhim Singh who was only 6 years of age and was then at Chittor. During the time of Maharana Bhim Singhji there occurred an intervened trouble among the chieftains of Mewar and also a Mahratta rebellion. There Nawab Dilaver Khan started plundering Chittor but Prince Amar Singh who lived in the fort defeated and drove him away Dilaver Khan. After this the only noteworthy event was the Durbar of 1881 A.D. in the time of Maharana Sajjan Singhji on this occasion the town of Canvas, came into existence on the bank of Gambhir River between Lakhota gate and Chittor. The camp of Lord Ripon, the Viceroy of India was pitched near the Lakhota gate while that of the Maharana was near Chittori. All the fief holders of Mewar were assembled together. There must have assembled not less than 35 thousand men for the camp was about 3 miles in length. Lord Ripon held a Darbar under a Pandol between the two camps and invested the Maharana with the insignia of the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star of India. This function cost 4 lakhs of rupees.

Chittorgarh whose ruins crowning the rocky mass that rises like a gigantic battleship from the plain frown upon the railway as it plunges into the hills in search of the new city.

The famous fort of Chittor is situated at a height of 500 feet above the ground. It is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles long and half mile broad. Its acreage is 690 acres and it has got about 80 water tanks of various sizes in it. This fort well guarded with gates and battlements is one of the famous forts of the world. The population of the fortress in 1931 A.D. was 1,286. Its glory and renown have been won by the valour and heroism of its brave kings, such as Maharawal Bapa, Khumanji, Ratan Singhji, Rana Hamir Singhji I, Kumbhaji, Sangram Singhji I. (Sangaji), etc.

*Padal Pol* is the name of the first gate, which one meets as one goes to the fort from the town below. Just outside it, there is a step well named Jhali Bav, built by Queen Jhali of Maharana Udai Singhji,

also the residence of the District Officer, the court and hospital. Formerly there used to be a direct route from the town to the gate, named Ram Pol, inside the fort but Maharana Kumbhaji constructed Padal Pol, Bhairav Pol, Hanuman Pol, Jorala Pol, and Lakshaman Pol in 1450 A.D. and, thus made a circuitous route and strong one. Whenever the Maharana used to visit Chittorgarh in the past and went to the fort, a buffalo was sacrificed at this Padol Pol. Maharana Fateh Singhji gave orders that in future a goat should be sacrificed instead of a buffalo. Immediately outside the gate, there is a raised platform to the memory of Rawat Bagh Singh Deolia (the Ravat of Deolia who was a descendant of Khsem Karan, the second son of Maharana Mokal). He was killed at this spot during Bahadur Shah's attack, while fighting as a General and as a representative of the Maharana.

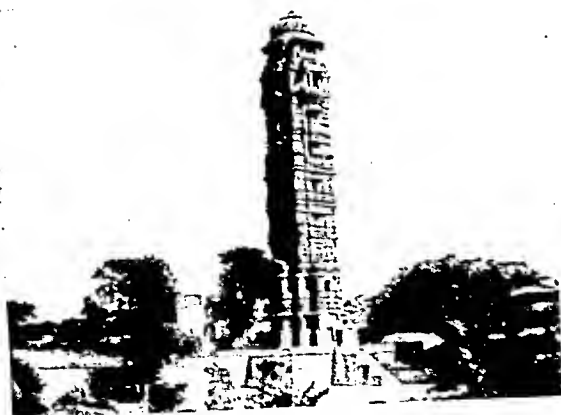
Proceeding beyond Bhairav Pol, there are two chattries, erected to the memories of the famous Rathor Jai Mal of Badnor and to his relative, Kalla. When Akbar attacked Chittor and the Maharana betook himself to the western mountains, having entrusted the fort to the care of his nobles, Jai Mal (who had received a bullet from the Emperor in his leg and had become lame in consequence), continued to fight while leaning on the shoulder of his relative Kalla Rathore, but he sank to the ground at this spot. There were only platforms here originally, but shortly afterwards a few years ago his descendant the Thakur Partap Singh of Badnor built a chattri.

Proceeding through Hanuman Pol, Ganesh Pol, Jorala Pol, and Lakshaman Pol, consecutively one arrives at the Ram Pol, the most ancient gate of the fort. Inside Ram Pol, there is a platform raised to the memory of the famous Putta Jagavat Chondavat, who was also killed, as a General, in the fight with Akber in the third sack of Chittor. Beyond this the road turns right and leads to Sri Tulja Bhavaniji's temple, built by Banbir (Banbir was the natural son of Prithviraj, the eldest son of Maharana Rai Mal. He sat on the throne of Chittor, after killing Maharana Vikramadityaji. Maharana Udai Singhji then turned him out).

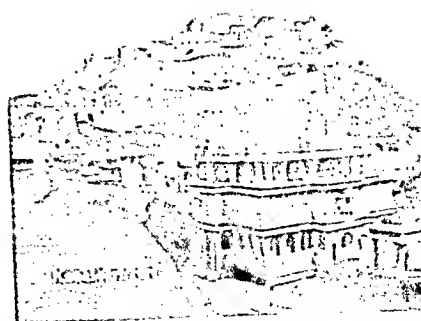
*Navalakha Bhandar.*—It has a tower wall and a Bhandar (store room which is used as equipment Depot. Banbir began to construct this as a refuge citadel for himself but it remained incomplete and he was turned out). In the wall there is a small shrine named Srangar Chanvari, which is wonderfully carved. After these are palaces, the Badi Pol, Tripolians, etc. All built by Maharana Kumbhaji. Maharana Sajjan Singhji, had the old palaces repaired, while he lived for three months in the house of Hinglu Ahara and the Tagma Darbar (Lord Ripon's) was celebrated down below. The work went on for two years but the repairs to the palaces and to the wall of the fort were never completed owing to his death.



*A general view of the Tower of Victory.*



*Tower of Victory (Chittorgarh).*



*Kumbhalgarh.*





Since Maharana Fateh Singhji did not like the old palaces because they were situated near the wall and within range of artillery from the hills around, he built new and extensive palaces at a short distance from this place, named Fateh Prakash palace in 1907 A.D. at a cost of 6 lakhs of rupees. There are twenty-seven small Jain Shrines near this palace. The temple of Kumbh Shyamji, which possesses beautiful carvings, was built by Maharana Khumbhaji in 1450 A.D. South of it there is a temple of Shyam Nath, built by Miram Bai, the wife of Boj Raj, the son of Maharana Sangaji (Sangram Singhji I).

Here stands the lofty column of Victory known as "Jaya Stambh", built by Maharana Kumbha to commemorate his conquest of Malwa. A battle was fought at Sarangpur, Sultan Mahmud of Malwa, after being defeated fled to his capital Mandu. It is 120 feet high and its width at the base is 30 feet. On its exterior and interior are carved images of various incarnations of Hindu Gods, which show clever workmanship. Mr. Fergusson says that though the Kutab Tower of Delhi is larger and loftier, it is far inferior to the Jai Stambh in design and execution. The dome of this tower was damaged by lightning and Maharana Swaroop Singhji had it repaired. Again it cracked. The present Maharana Sahib had it repaired recently under the superintendence of Hira Lal Murdia an old State Engineer. Close to this, to the south-west, there is the cremation ground (Mahasatyas) of the Maharanas. The temple of Samidheshwer, which was restored by Maharana Mokal in 1428 A.D. is also situated here. It contains a three-faced idol of Shiva, on an altar. Beyond this there is a beautiful drinking place Gau Mukh, from a carved stone like the mouth of a cow.

The Sun tank of Suraj Kund, has alongside of it the temple of Kalika Bhavani, the inside of which pertains entirely to the Sun.

Beyond are the tank and Palace of Padmini built by Rawal Ratan Singhji in 1303 A.D. Maharana Sajjan Singhji had the building inside the tank, as well as those on its bank, repaired and made fit to live in it. On the right of the road, beyond this there are the dwellings of the nobility, Salumbar, Bundi, Rampura, etc., who were then the feudatory princes of Chittor. Next to these there is a 'Bhakhshi' on the left side of the road. In this place the captive kings were kept. Maharana Hamir Singhji I. defeated Mohammad Tughlak of Delhi at Singowli, and kept him as prisoner for 3 months. Maharana Khumbhaji imprisoned Mahamud Khilji of Malwa in 1437 A.D. and kept him prisoner for 3 months at the end of which time, he set him free and then, having restored to him half the kingdom of Malwa, as a gift with a bouquet of flower made him the king of Mandu. All these must have been confined here.

Beyond to the left of the road, there is a chaugan (a big open space), which has a wall for elephant fights and Chougan gatta posts a game not unlike polo, which used to be played in old days. The Chitrang

tank, built by Raja Chitrang Mori, is quite close. The ruins of the palaces of the Chitrangad were cleared away in 1881 A.D. to give place to a fine terrace suitable for holding a Darbar. This terrace was afterwards known as Raj Teela. At a Darbar, which owing to an alteration in the places, was not held here but under a canopy, in a town of canvas at the foot of the fort on the bank of the river Gambhiri, the Viceroy of India, Lord Ripon, invested Maharana Sajjan Singhji with the insignia of G.C.S.I.

Beyond this terrace is a Chittori gate which is now closed. Facing it, and 150 feet below, there is a hillock, named Chittori, on which Bahadur Shah of Gujrat placed his guns when he conquered the fort in 1534 A.D. In 1567 A.D. the Emperor Akbar paid the labourers at first a rupee for each basketful of earth piled here in order to raise the height of Chittori, increasing this sum to a gold Mohar per basket.

Turning back from Chittori to the Suraj Pol gate one comes to the mansions of Gora Badal and Rao Rad Mal. Beyond lies the Bhimlat pond, which is said to have a spring owing to the fact that Bhima here kicked the ground. The temple of Nil Kanth Mahadev, which is nearby is supposed to have been established by Bhima, the Pandava. The platform of Saindas, the Ravat of Salumbra showing the place of his death near the Suraj Pol gate, when fighting Akber in 1567 A.D. is nearby. The 80 feet high tower of glory built by Jeeja Bagerwala, in the 12th century, stands beyond. As it has fallen into ruin, Maharana Fateh Singhji rebuilt it at a cost of nearly one lakh of rupees. The palaces and tank of Rawal Ratan Singhji are nearby. Hinglu Ahara of Dungarpur, lived in these palaces, and they are known, therefore, as the palaces of Hinglu Ahara.

The temple of Sri Annpurna Devi was built by Maharana Hamir Singhji I. The temple of Ban Mata and a chattri were built for Ragava Dev, the second son of Maharana Lakha, Ragava Dev prevented Rao Radmal of Mandore from gaining complete control over Chittor. Owing to a grudge Rao Radmal persuaded the Maharana Kumbhaji to bestow a dress of Honour on Ragadev, the sleeves of which were sewn up at the ends and bid the recipient put the same on in the Maharana's presence. While complying with this order Ragadev found his two arms buried in the sleeves. He was then stabbed under the orders of Radmal and eventually died. His memory is still cherished. On this spot is a temple of the God Charbhuj, a tank named Bhinguadi, supposed to have sprouted water, because Bhim's knee touched ground at this spot, and a reservoir named Kukreshwer. Beyond is the gate Ram Pol, from which one can return to the town below.

This entire fort was in a very much ruined state. Maharana Sajjan Singhji, however, commenced repairing it, but he did not live long. Afterwards Maharana Fateh Singhji encircled the fort with a

wall and constructed several new buildings in the fort, and thus made really worthy of being looked upon as the ancient capital of Mewar.

*Nagri*.—Nagri is a village situated 6 miles to the north of Chittor. It has many Buddhistie pillars and an enclosure completely covered by them. Since Akber tied his elephants here it has been known as Hathi Bara. There is a small turret, known as "the lamp-stand of Akber" and near this place are the traces of the dam of a tank, named Mansarover, which was built by Raja Man Mori.

*Sri Avramataji*.—Fourteen miles to the south-west of Chittor, there is a temple to Sri Avramataji, on the Bund of a tank near the village of Avra. Hundreds of cripples encamp nearby. They worship the Deity, pass through a window and it is said that they are cured. The votaries of the Goddess offer sweetmeats and also sacrifice goats.

## NATHADWARA

Nathadwara is situated on the right bank of the river Banas and is 30 miles to the north of Udaipur. Its population in 1931 A.D. was 8,506. This is the centre of the Pushti Marg sect or the followers of the Balabhaacharyaji founder of this sect. The Senior descendant or the Tiket Goswami resides here. Nathadwara possesses a temple of Sri Krishna Chandra, the well-known deity of the Vishnav Faith. This idol of Sri Govardhan Nathji or Sri Nathji is said to date back to the 8th century. Vallabhacharya established it in Govardhan (near Mathura), one hundred and fifty years later. When Aurangzeb wanted to stop the worship of Krishna, the descendant of Vallabhacharya took away their idols, left Govardhan Mathura, and roamed about in Rajputana. Maharana Raj Singhji I had three of the 8 images viz. Sri Nathji, Sri Dwarka Nathji and Sri Vithal Nathji which were brought in to Mewar. He built a temple in the village of Sihar and endowed them with Jagirs of thousands of rupees for their worship.

When during the time of Maharana Raj Singhji I Emperor Aurangzeb demolished the temples of Govardhan, Gokul, Mathura, the Goswami took Sri Nathji with him and wandered over the States of Rajputana and Deccan, no one daring to incur the displeasure of Aurangzeb. At last, being in a helpless condition, the Goswami wrote from Champasani, a village near Jodhpur, a letter asking Maharana Raj Singhji I who was a very powerful king, and always hated the bigotry of the Mohammadans, to help him. Thereupon the Maharana went up to the border of his own territories to receive the Deity. On (Falgun Krishna 7 viz. 1728) 20th February 1672 A.D. the image of Sri Nathji was established in the village of Sihar. He conferred on the Deity, several villages yielding a revenue of thousands of rupees.

In Nathadwara, there are four temples of the sect of Vallabhacharya. Of these Sri Nathji and Sri Navnit Lalji are under the charge of Tiket Goswamiji Maharaj. Sri Vithal Nathji has a separate Goswami. Madan Mahanji who is also under the charge of Tiket

Goswamiji. Worship of all these is performed according to the Pushti Marga of Vallabhacharya. Besides temples, the palace and gardens of Goswami there are very fine buildings in Nathadwara. In addition to the comfortable Dharam Shalas in the town, there is an excellent arrangement for the guests of the Goswamiji in the temple of Banmaliji. There is a High School, Hospital, Press, Post and Telegraph Office at Nathadwara. There is a motor service between Nathadwara and Nathadwara Road Station on the Udaipur-Chittorgarh Railway which is 7 miles distant. A rough road also leads to Kankroli from Nathadwara. Tongas, carts and lorries run on this road.

## KANKROLI

Kankroli is situated on the bank of a tank named Raj Samand at a distance of 33 miles on the north-east of Udaipur. Its population was 3,446 in 1931 A.D.

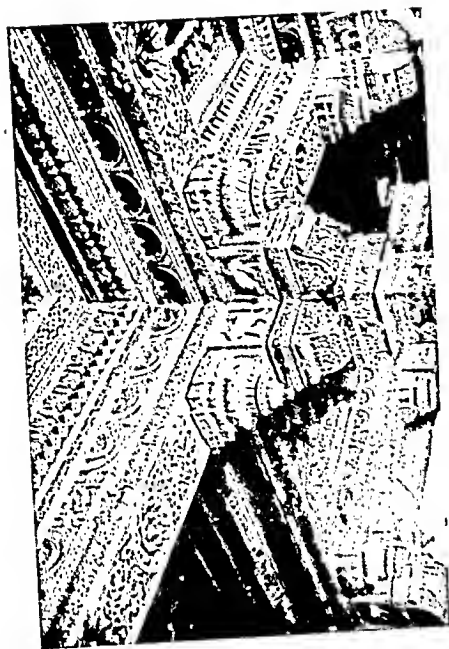
It has a temple of Dwarka Nathji, one of the seven Swaroops (idols) of Pushti Marga of Vallabhacharya and is worshipped according to same ways.

The idol was brought here in 1671 A.D. in the time of Maharana Raj Singhji I. At first the Maharana kept the idol in a village named Asotia. Later on in 1676 A.D. His Highness installed it with due religious ceremonies in a temple specially built for it in Kankroli at the time of the celebration of the opening of the tank Raj Samand. Through his spirit of devotion he conferred on the Deity an estate worth thousands of rupees. Besides this idol, Kankroli has also got an idol of Sri Mathura Nathji and a small waxen image of Sri Dwarka Nathji. The aunt of the Goswami of the big temple used to perform the worship of this small image separately. On the death of the aunt the said image came under the charge of the Goswami of the big temple. Kankroli is a Railway Station on Khambli Ghat section of the Udaipur-Chittorgarh Railway.

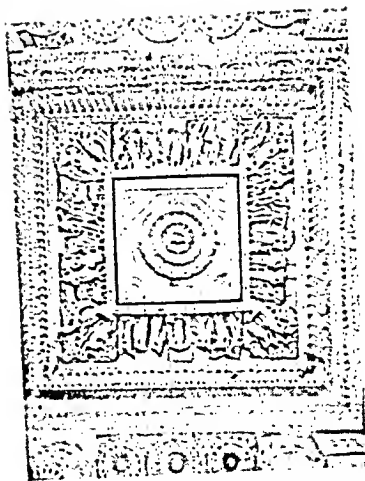
## RAJNAGAR

This civil station of the district of the same name is 36 miles on the north-east of Udaipur. The population was 2,531 in 1931 A.D. There is a Hindi school, a hospital, a temple and a Post Office at this place.

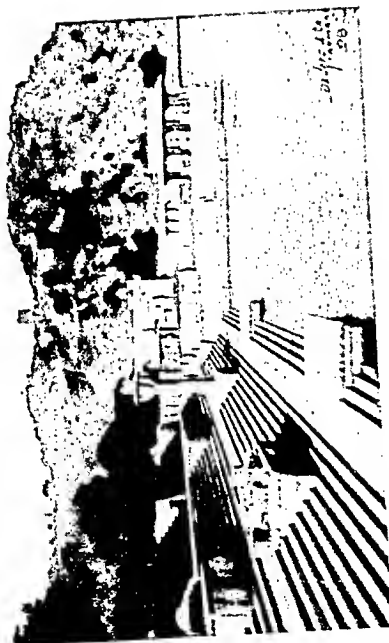
Maharana Raj Singhji I founded this town and named it after himself as Raj Nagar in 1632, when he built the tank named Raj Samand and the palaces on a hill, known as the Raj Mandir. This town is one mile to the west of the embankment of the tank. It has a hospital and a Hindi School. There are quarries of white and black marble. The marble is very strong and is of excellent quality. The Bund of the Raj Samudra (or Samand) tank and the palaces on the hill are made of this marble. The Maharana has repaired these palaces recently.



*Rajsamudra Nawchawki.*



*Rajsamudra Nawchawki.*



*Rajsamudra Bund.*



*Jaisamudra.*



## RAJ SAMANDRA

The construction of this lake commenced on the 18th of January 1662 A.D. when the work of the dam across the river Gomati was commenced. Its sanctification, after its completion took place on the 1st February 1676 A.D. At that time Maharana Raj Singhji gave away in charity, gold equal to the weight of his chief consort, his grandson and himself, with several other charities. The money spent on the construction of this tank amounted to Rs. 39,64,623-8-0 and rupees 65 lakhs were spent in charity, rewards, festivities and presents sent by the Maharana to various Princes.

The lake of Raj Samandra is nearly 4 miles long,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile broad, and 55 feet deep. Its basin is 195 square miles and it has an area of 3 square miles. It contains 220 million cubic feet of water. The length of the embankment is just over 2 miles. The dyke built between the two hills to the north is 600 feet long and 210 feet broad. This embankment has beautiful ghats and three edifices known as the three "Nochaukis." The sculpture inside these Nochaukis is so fine that it equals that in the Delwara Jain temple of Mount Abu, which is unique in the whole of India. Aurangzeb who visited this place in the course of his expedition against the Maharana of Mewar was so struck by the charm and workmanship of this tank that he could not destroy it, and so returned without doing it harm.

Recently arrangements have been made at Raj Samandra for the landing of Sea-planes on their way from London to Australia.

When the estrangement between Maharana Jai Singhji and his son, Kunwar Amar Singh, was very acute, the former prepared to leave Mewar, and even went to Ghanerao in order to carry out his purpose. There he was stopped however by his loyal adherents. The Prince also arrived at this place and the well-wishers of the Ruling House. The latter smoothed over misunderstandings and effected a reconciliation between father and son. As a result the Maharana went back to Udaipur and the Prince got an annual grant of Rs. 3 lakhs including Raj Nagar where he went to reside. On the death of the Maharana the Prince went to Udaipur and succeeded his father on the throne in 1698 A.D. Maharana Sajjan Singhji built a palace on the embankment of this lake and laid out a garden. At this place, on a hill to the east, there is a Jain temple, built by Dayal Shahi, the Chief Minister of Maharana Raj Singhji I. Near the eastern end of the embankment there is a small temple of Ghewar Mata.

At Raj Nagar there is a step well of white marble constructed under the orders of "Charu Mati Bai" the queen of Maharana Raj Singhji I at the cost of 30 thousand rupees. Charu Mati Bai was the daughter of Raja Rup Singh of Rupangarh (Kishengarh) Aurangzeb hearing of her wonderful beauty told her father that he should marry her to him. The father was forced to consent to it. When Charu Mati Bai heard this she contemplated suicide. Being



the follower of the faith of Vishnu she hated the touch of a Mohammadan. Her father also had the same antipathy but he was helpless. He told his daughter that Maharana Raj Singhji I alone in the whole of India could oppose Aurangzeb. He also said that his own opposition was futile for if he were to fight his 5,000 horsemen would be most certainly killed and his daughter would still fall into the hands of Aurangzeb. He suggested to his daughter therefore that the only alternative was that she should write a letter to Maharana Raj Singhji I and that he would have it despatched to Udaipur that night. He said that she should mention in her letter that she did not want to be touched by Mohammadans and that she would never surrender herself completely to him. She implored the Maharana to protect her as Krishna had protected Rukmani from Shisupal and that if he did not come to her rescue she would commit suicide and the sin whereof would fall on his head. So Charu Mati Bai wrote the letter and sent it by a carrier to Udaipur. The Maharana who was always hostile to Aurangzeb swiftly reached Rupangarh married Charu Mati Bai and brought her to Udaipur. She built this step well in memory of this.

*Sri Charbhuj Gadbor.*—About 20 miles to the north of Kumbhalgarh, 20 miles to the west of Raj Nagar and 18 miles from Gadbor Road Station (Amet) of Khambli Ghat Section of Udaipur-Chittorgarh Railway is the celebrated temple of Sri Charbhuj, built during the 15th century. This village had a population of 1,531 in 1931 A.D. The idol of Charbhuj is considered to be a miraculous one. Thousands of pilgrims visit it and make pledges before it in order to enjoy the favour of the idol. A big fair is held here in the Bhadrapad Sukla 11, when thousands of pilgrims from Mewar, Marwar and other remote places gather here. There is a Dharamshala for the comfort of pilgrims.

A temple, known as the temple of Roop Narain, is situated at a distance of about 5 miles from this village in the village Sevantri. It was built by Maharana Hamir Singhji I in the end of the fourteenth century.

## KUMBHALGARH

*Kumbhalgarh.*—This famous fort is situated on north latitude 25·9 and east longitude 73·58 on a hillock 3,568 feet high at a distance of 2½ miles from Kelwara, the chief station of the district of Kumbhalgarh, and at a distance of nearly 50 miles to the north of Udaipur. It commands a very beautiful view of Marwar. Its population was 382 persons in 1931 A.D.

The fort was built by Maharana Kumbhji. The religious ceremonies regarding its opening were performed in 1458. From Kelwara to the fort there is a pass in the hills which goes through the following gates. Aret Pol, Halla Pol, Hanuman Pol, Ram Pol and Vijai Pol.

At Hanuman Pol there is a great idol of Hanuman which Maharana Kumbhaji brought as a spoil of war from Nagore.

A temple of Nil Kanth Mahadev and Vedi and an altar for putting oblations in sacrificial fire made by Maharana Kumbhaji are to be seen at Kumbhalgarh. An altar of this type does not exist anywhere else. At the back of the altar there is a big open space and on its north side is the house of Kiledar and the general residential area. A tank named Barwai is situated below this. Another tank, known as Mamadevka kund, built by Maharana Kumbhaji, is also near this place. Many idols and paleographie inscriptions are found at this tank. These inscriptions are very helpful to the history of Mewar. The eldest son of Maharana Kumbhaji Udai Karan, killed his father (Maharana Kumbhaji) when he was sitting at this reservoir of water in 1468 A.D. Near this spot there is a chattri of Kunwar Prithvi Raj, the eldest son of Maharana Rai Mal. It stands where he was cremated and where his wives burnt themselves as Satis. Another chattri was built to his memory at a short distance from the small gate, Tida Bari, on the west of the fortress, at a spot where he died of poison, while he was returning from Sirohi. Ananda Bai, the sister of Kunwar Prithvi Raj, was married to Rao Jagmal of Sirohi. At the instance of his other wives the said Rao inflicted great suffering upon Ananda Bai. On hearing the news Kunwar Prithvi Raj went at once to Sirohi and arrived at the place where the Rao and his other wives were sleeping together on a bed having his one foot placed on the hand of Ananda Bai. Then Kunwar awakened the Rao from his sleep and drawing out his sword reproved him insultingly as to why he inflicted such torture on his (the Kunwar's) sister, while he (Kunwar) was alive. The Rao then supplicated for pardon and as Ananda Bai also prayed her brother to be so good as to save her from widowhood, Kunwar Prithvi Raj spared the life of the Rao. The Rao afterwards entertained Kunwar Prithvi Raj profusely and when Prithvi Raj departed, he (the Rao) gave Kunwar Prithvi Raj three pills as food to be taken in the way. Kunwar Prithvi Raj not suspecting foul play, ate these three pills in the course of his journey. The pills contained poison so that as Kunwar Prithvi Raj approached Kumbhalgarh he became ill. He at once sent word to his wife, Tara Bai, to say that if she wished to see him she should come immediately. However, he expired before anybody was able to get to him. A chattri was erected to his memory at this spot. Prithvi Raj was a man of renown. On account of the speed of his movements he became known as "fleet footed, Prithvi Raj." Just as he paid a surprise visit to Sirohi, he once reached Girnar and rescued his father's sister Rama Bai from the torture inflicted on her by her husband Raja Mandlik Yadav. Having cut off his ear, he granted him his life on his begging for it, and then he brought back his father's sister to Mewar. Maharana Rai Malji conferred on her the town of Jawar where she lived and where she

died. Similarly Kunwar Prithvi Raj killed Lalla Pathan, then restored to Rao Sultan of Toda his lost dominions and then accepted the hand of Tara Bai the daughter of the Sultan Solankhi. It is said that Lalla Pathan seized Toda from Rao Sultan, who being unable to recover his lost estate, promised that anybody who will reconquer his lost dominions he would give him his daughter Tara Bai in marriage. But nobody except Prithvi Raj could succeed. He also defeated the king of Malwa on the bank of river Gambhiri near Chittor and took him prisoner. He was very brave and adventurous.

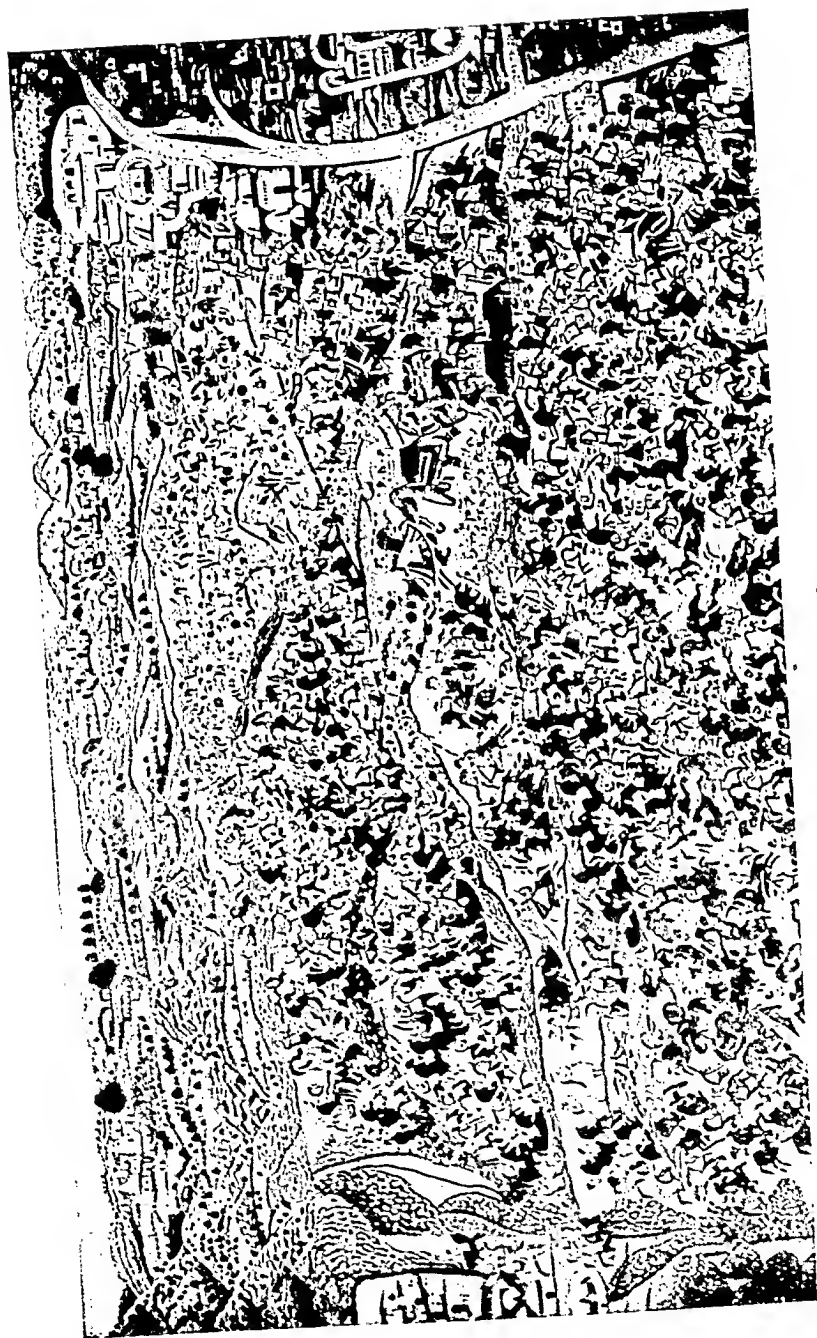
At Kumbhalgarh is the citadel of Katargarh nearly 500 feet above the surface of Kubhalgarh, built by Maharana Kumbhaji on a lofty hill. The names of the principal gates are as follows :—Bhairava Pol, Nimboo Pol, Chogan Pol, Pagda Pol and Ganesh Pol.

Maharana Fateh Singhji built a new palace at a cost of 5 lakhs of rupees in place of the old palaces of queen Jhali. He also built a big wall encircling the fort which can be seen from a long distance. The old buildings, which still survive, are the dome of Kunwar Prithvi Raj, the Nochowki, where the Deity Durga is installed, the tanks of water and a few other objects.

This place possessed several palaces and Jain temples built by king Samprati two hundred years before the Christian era.

The famous fortress however was built by Maharana Kumbhaji where many a battle took place with the kings of Malwa and Gujrat. Mohammad Khilji the king of Malwa and Kutbuddin the king of Gujrat, led several attacks against this fortress, but they all failed. Shalibaz Khan, the general of Akbar, was the only person able to take possession of the fortress and this was owing to the bursting of a gun at the fort and the consequent blowing up of the Magazine. However, soon after this, Maharana Partap Singhji recaptured the fortress.

Maharana Udai Singhji was crowned at Kumbhalgarh in 1537 A.D. (connection of author's family in State service also began from this date) and it was from Kumbhalgarh that he led an expedition to Guda village from whence he brought as his wife, a daughter of Jhala Jait Singh, whom the famous Rao Maldev of Jodhpur had desired for himself. The story of that incident is as follows :—Jhala Jait Singh having taken offence at something or other went over to Rao Maldev, who conferred on him (Jait Singh), the grant of the village of Kherva and married Swaroop Devi. This Swaroop Devi had a younger sister who was more beautiful than her. Maldev once went to the house of Jhala Jait Singh and saw his wife's younger sister and wanted to marry her also. But Swaroop Devi implored her father not to marry her younger sister to her husband while she was alive. Jait Singh therefore would not agree to Rao Maldev's request. Maldev then threatened to marry the girl by force. Jait Singh, in order to gain time, then pleaded straitened finances and his inability to perform the marriage at such short notice. Maldev then gave Jait Singh Rs. 15,000 and two



*Battle of Haldighati.*



months time to arrange the marriage celebration. Jait Singh sent word to Maharana Udai Singhji at Kumbhalgarh to marry his daughter. The Maharana accepted the offer, reached Guda, was married and brought his wife to Kumbhalgarh. Swaroop Devi the elder sister (the queen of Maldev) had arranged at this time to give her sister a casket of Jewellery as a dowry. In her haste, however, she gave instead of that another casket which contained the image of Nagrechanji Mataji, family deity of the Rathors. On arrival at Kumbhalgarh the casket was opened and the said image found in it. To keep the memory of this event, twice a year in the months of Bhadrapad Shukla 7 and Magh Shukla 7, The Maharana Sahib held a durbar and rejoiced and bards sang poems of this event. The news of taking away his betrothed girl reached Maldev at Jodhpur. He sent an expedition to Kumbhalgarh, but it was defeated by Maharana.

On the eastern side of this fort is the pass of Hathiaguda leading to Godwar from Kelwara (Mewar).

## KHAMNORE

Khamnore is 26 miles on the north of Udaipur situated on the right bank of the Banas River. It had a population of 1,122 in 1931 A.D. At a short distance from here, is the famous battlefield of Haldighaty, where Maharana Partap Singh I fought with Kunver Man Singh of Amber, the famous General of Akber on the 21st May 1576 A.D. The Maharana defeated the Haraval (advance guard) of the Imperial Army and fled into the hills.

A village named Sheshoda is situated about 14 miles south-east of Kumalgarh. Rana Rahap, the younger son of Maharawal Karan Singh (or Ran Singh) of Chittor founded this state and ruled here. The family name Ahada derived this title from their residence in Ahar. So the rulers of Sheshoda were known as Sheshoda. Another legend, however, has it that Rahap suffered from leprosy, which was cured by the treatment of an anchorite of Sanderao. Subsequently Rana Rahap learnt that the medicine contained wine, and so the kings of Mewar abstained from wine. Rahap committed suicide by drinking hot molten (lead) Shisha which thus accounts for the dynasty being known as that of Shishodias. During the reign of Rahap Shishoda, Rana Mokul Parihar of Mandore used to menace and generally make himself a nuisance. So Rahap defeated him and deprived him of his dominion of Godwar and his title of Rana. Since then the kings of this dynasty have been known as Ranas.

After Rahap, Narpati, Din Karan, Yashkaran, Nagpal, Puranpal, Prithvipal, Bhuvan Singh, Bhim Singh, Jai Singh and Lakhsaman Singh (Garh Lakhsaman Singh) successively became the Ranas of Shishoda. The first sack of Chittor which is associated with the name of Padmini, took place in 1303 A.D. when Allauddin Khilji attacked and conquered the fort. At that time, Rana Lakhsaman Singh came

to Chittor and fell on the battlefield together with seven of his sons. As the line of Maharawal Ratan Singhji became extinct a descendant of Rana Lakhsaman Singh of Shishoda was installed as the ruler of Mewar.

### SAIRA

Saira is 33 miles to the north-west of Udaipur. Its population was 962 in 1931 A.D. Formerly it was a separate district but for some time past it has been included in the district of Kumbhalgarh. This is the highest place in Mewar. A little above the village of Gunaval stands the highest peak of Jarga which is 4,315 feet above the sea-level. On this mountain there is a sacred spot where Jarga a sacred burning place is worshipped. A fair is held here every year on Falgun Krishna 13 Shivaratri. Thousands of people visit it at that time. On the banks of the river Banas there is a hill not far from the village of Roheda in this district which possesses a small palace in which Maharana Partap Singh I lived.

### KAREDA

Kareda is a railway station on the Udaipur Chittorgarh Railway. Maharana Fatch Singhji has built a tank named Bhupal Sagar here which has been designed to contain 60 crores of cubic feet of water in an area of 3 square miles. Its depth is 20 feet and its basin is 80 miles. Recently a sugar factory has been started here.

### RASMI

Rasmi is the headquarter of the district officer of a district of the same name and it is situated 15 miles north of the railway station of Kapasin on the right bank of the river Banas. The population was 1,489 in 1931 A.D. It has a Hindi school.

About four or five miles from the village there is another village named Kundian which contains several temples and a reservoir of water known as Matri Kundian. The sins of Matricide—Parshuram—were washed away by a bath in this tank. This place had a population of 723 men in 1931 A.D. A fair is held here for three days from Vaishakh Shukla 15 (full moon) every year. A large number of pilgrims visit and bathe here on that occasion. Maharana Swaroop Singhji, Shambhu Singhji, Sajjan Singhji and Fatch Singhji all visited this place.

### BHILWARA

Bhilwara is the chief town of the district of that name. It is 80 miles to the north-east of Udaipur and is a station of B. B. & C. I. Railway. Its population was 10,634 in 1931 A.D.

Bhilwara is a very important trading town in Mewar. It was practically destroyed by the Mahrattas and Pindaries. It was repopulated by Colonel Todd when he took the administration

of the State in his own hands in 1818 A.D. Bhilwara has a cotton ginning mill, a hospital, a high school and a post and telegraph office. A cloth mill is also sanctioned here.

A new town named Bhopal Ganj is progressing rapidly between the old town and railway station.

## HOORDA

This is situated on the river Khari on the northern boundary line of Mewar and it is the chief civil station of a district of the same name. It is 2 miles to the east of Gulabpura Station of the B. B. & C. I. Railway. Its population was 2,963 in 1931 A.D.

In 1710 A.D. when Maharana Sangram Singhji II came to the throne the Emperor Bahadur Shah allotted the Parganas of Pur, Mandal, Hoorda, etc., to one Ranbaj Khan Mewati who with the help of the Imperial Army wanted to take possession of these places. A fight took place on the 14th April 1711 A.D. in which Ranbaj Khan was killed and these Parganas remained in Mewar.

Many chiefs of Rajasthan, namely, those of Jaipur, Jodhpur, Nagore, Bikaner, Bundi, Kotah, Karauli, Kishangarh and other States assembled at this place in the time of Maharana Jagat Singhji II in 1735 A.D. to consult about the measures which might have to be taken against the Mahrattas. It was here in 1771 A.D. near the river Khari that in the time of Ari Singhji III a battle began between the Maharana and the rebel chiefs assisted by the Frenchman Samroo. As however, the Maharaja of Kishangarh intervened Samroo withdrew and a peace was concluded between the two.

Gulabpura is the chief trading centre near Hoorda. It had a population of 601 in 1931 A.D. It has a cotton ginning mill, a Post Office and a Hospital. The district of Hoorda produces excellent home spun Khadi.

## MANDAL

Mandal is the chief civil station of a tehsil in the district of Bhilwara and is 2 miles to the south-west of the railway station named Mandal on the B. B. & C. I. Railway. It is 9 miles to the north-west of Bhilwara. The population was 4,479 in 1931 A.D. It has a post office and a Hindi school. To the north of the village there is a very old tank the area of which is one square mile.

Its basin is 25 square miles and it contains 200 million cubic feet of water. The Emperor Akbar after conquering Chittor in 1567 A.D. erected buildings on its embankment. In the wars with the Moghuls this place changed hands several times but finally Maharana Amar Singhji II regained it in 1706 A.D.

## MANDALGARH

Mandalgarh the chief civil station of a district of the same name is hundred miles to the north-east of Udaipur. In 1931 A.D. the population was 1,618 on the fort and 1,462 in the inhabitants below. It



has a hospital, post office and Hindi School. To the north-west of the town, on a hillock is an old fort which is half a mile long and wall towers are built all along the edge of a precipitous hill. It is said to have been built by Balnotes (Solandkhies) in the 12th century.

Another tradition says that a Bhil named Mandia came across the Philosopher's stone as he rubbed at it the point of his arrow and turned it into gold. The Bhil then gave that piece of the Philosopher's stone to one Chamana Gujar who built this fort and named it Mandalgarh after Mandia the Bhil.

Maharana Khsetrasinghji (Khetaji 1364-82 A.D.) annexed this fort to Mewar after conquering the Haras. Mahmud Khilji, the King of Malwa and Kutbuddin and Muzzafar Shah, the Kings of Gujarat made several attacks on his fort during the time of Maharana Kumbhaji and Raimalji but they were invariably unsuccessful.

Akbar took possession of the fort when he led his expedition against Mewar during the time of Maharana Udai Singhji. When a treaty was signed between Maharana Amarsinghji I and Jehangir in 1615 A.D. it was restored to Mewar. Shahjahan gave it to Raja Rupsingh of Kishengarh in 1650 A.D. who built a palace there. Maharana Raj Singhji took it back in 1660 A.D. but only to lose it twenty years afterwards to Aurangzeb who gave it into the charge of Rathore Jujarsingh of Pisangan. Maharana Amar Singhji II however, recaptured it in 1706 A.D.

## MENAL

This is a small village included in the grants of lands given to the Rawat of Begun. There are many old temples here of which Shivala of Maha Nal Dev built of white stone is the most important. The arched pillar which is carved and the reservoir of water in front of this temple are worth seeing.

## JAHAZPUR

Jahazpur which is the headquarters of a district of the same name is 160 miles from Udaipur and 12 miles south-west of Deoli cantonment. It is situated on the bank of the river Nagdi. Its population in 1931 A.D. was 3,856. According to the tradition Janmejaya, the grandson of Yudhishtira, performed here the sacrifice in which he made oblations to snakes. The place was thus known as Yagyapur, later on as Jahazpur. The same king erected 12 temples at the Nagela tank which is a mile and half away. He also established and constructed the image of Somnath. There is a small garden along the bank of the river Nagdi.

The fort on the hill was built by Maharana Kumbhaji 1433-68 A.D. Maharana Kheshttra Singhji (Khetaji 1364-82 A.D.) conquered Jahazpur from the Pathans and annexed it to Mewar. It was here that Maharana Mokajji defeated Ferozekhan of Nagore.



From the time of Maharana Khshetrasinghji to that of Maharana Uda Singhji it was under the subjection of Mewar. Then it fell into the hands of Akbar who gave it to Jagmal, the younger brother of Maharana Partapsinghji I. Maharana Sangram Singhji then took it back and annexed it to Mewar. During the Mahratta rebellion it was for some time under the domination of Jhala Zalim Singh of Kotah. Shortly afterwards the arrival of Colonel Todd in 1818 A.D. this returned to Mewar. There is a school, a hospital and a post office.

## Genealogical Table

The Maharanas of Udaipur (Mewar) are the descendants of Kusha, the elder son of Lord Ramchandra of the Solar race and are Shishodia Rajputs. They are highest in rank and dignity among the Rajas of Hindustan. They never desired to become rich or to rule and they staked their lives in order to defend their religion. They were called collectively 'The sun of Hindus.' After Ayodhya, they went to the Deccan and then to Saurashtra and founded the kingdom of Vallabhi of Gujrat. Then they came to Idar and on the destruction of the latter kingdom migrated to Nagda and settled there. The famous Maharawal Bapa, who took the fort of Chittor from Raja Man Mori and extended the dominions of Mewar reigned here.

1. *Guhil or Guhadittiya*. He came from Vallabhipur (Saurashtra) to Idar in the 6th century A.D. and extended his dominions as far as Agra. The name of Guhilot given to this house, starts from here.

2. *Bhoja or Bhogadittiya*.

3. *Mahendra I*.

4. *Naga or Nagoditya founded Nagada*.

5. *Shil or Shiladittiya (646 A.D.)*.

6. *Aprajit (661 A.D.)*.

7. *Mahendra II*.

8. *Kal Boj or Maharawal Bapa*. He took Chittor from Raja Man Mori in 734 A.D. While his other conquests extended up to Khorassan. He ruled at Nagda. Through the kindness of the sage Harita Sri Eklingji was pleased with Maharawal Bapa. He became an ascetic and died at Nagda in 753 A.D. At Karwadi there is a small temple or monument built at the place where he assumed the posture of Samadhi. He constructed the temple of Sri Eklingji and the Bojela tank and started a gold currency. According to tradition recorded by Badwas and Bhats, his 24th son Bhim Singh migrated to Deccan. Rulers of Barwani in Central India were also descended from Bapa Rawal. Maharajas of Vijainagram in Madras Presidency also claim to be descended from the House of Udaipur and are Sheshodias.

9. *Khuman I*.

10. *Mattat*.\*

11. *Bhartri Bhatt I*.

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\* These names are not found in Vir Vinod, but are seen in the inscription of Ahar dated 977 A.D.

12. *Singh or Aga Singh*. His younger brother Ishan Bhatta founded a dynasty of rulers of the country around Chatsu.

13. *Khuman II.\** This prince was very powerful and is famous for defeating Alamamun, the Calipha of Bagdad when he invaded Chittor. All princes acknowledged him their leader and came to help him.

14. *Mahayak.\**

15. *Khuman III.\**

16. *Bhat II.*

17. *Allat or Alu* (951-53 A.D.) founded the town of Ahar which he made his capital and it was then the House called Ahariya.

18. *Narvahan* (971 A.D.).

19. *Shali Vahan*. The rulers of Bhavanagar, Palitana, etc., in Kathiawar and Rajpipla in Rewa Kantha Gujrat are among his descendants.

20. *Shakti* (Kumar 977 A.D.).

21. *Amba Prasad*.

22. *Suchi Varma*.

23. *Nar Varma*.

24. *Keerti Varma*.

25. *Yog Raj*.

26. *Vairat*.

27. *Hanspal.\**

28. *Vairi Singh*.

29. *Vijai Singh* (1107-17 A.D.).

30. *Ari Singh I*.

31. *Chonda Singh*.

32. *Vikrama Singh or Punja*.

33. *Karan Singh I or Ran Singh*. The descendants of his younger son Rahap were the Ranas of Sheshoda and were called Sheshodias. The Chiefs of Dharampur in Gujrat are descended from Ramshah, a second son of Rana Rahap.

34. *Khsem Singh*. Rana Rahap of Sheshoda was his contemporary in Sheshoda.

35. *Samant Singh*. He defeated Raja Ajai Pal of Gujrat but Kituehohan of Nadol took Ahar and then Samant Singh founded the kingdom of Dungarpur in Bagad (southern hill tracts). He was married to Prithvi Bai, the sister of Prithvi Raj II of Ajmer. The Ruler of Banswara is also an offshoot of Dungarpur House. Narpat the Rana of Sheshoda was his contemporary.

36. *Kumar Singh*. He took his father's dominions of Ahar. He was younger brother of Samant Singh. Din Karan the Rana of Sheshoda was his contemporary.

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\* These names are not found in Vir Vinod, but are seen in the inscription of Ahar dated 977 A.D.

37. *Mathan Singh*. Jash Karan was his contemporary at Sheshoda.

38. *Padam Singh Nagpal* was his contemporary at Sheshoda.

39. *Jaitra Singh*. 1213-53 A.D. He made Chittorgarh his capital and defeated the king Jai Singh of Malwa and Tribhuvan Narain of Gujrat and Sultan Shamshuddin Altamash and Nasiruddin of Delhi. He attacked Nadol and took revenge of Samant Singh's defeat. Puran Pal was his contemporary at Sheshoda.

40. *Tej Singh*. 1261-73 A.D. Prithvi Pal was his contemporary at Sheshoda.

41. *Samar Singh*. 1273-1302 A.D. His younger son Kumbh Karan went to the Himalayas and the Kings of Nepal are descended from him. Bhuvan Singh, Bhim Singh Jai Singh were his contemporary at Sheshoda. The Chandravats of Rampura are descended from Chandra, the second son of Bhuvan Singh.

42. *Ratan Singh*. Allauddin Khilji, the Emperor of Delhi, attacked Chittorgarh in 1303 A.D. Ratan Singh was killed in the battle and the Emperor took the fort. On that occasion queen Padmini, with thousands of other women, performed the rite of Jauhar in the fire. This was the first sack of Chittor. Rana Lakhsaman Singh also came from Sheshoda to join the battle and was killed, together with his seven sons. Ratan Singh was the last Raja of Chittor belonging to Rawal branch.

43. *Rana Lakhsaman Singh*. He was the Rana of Sheshoda and was killed with his seven sons at Chittor.

44. *Ari Singh II*. Was the eldest son of Rana Lakhsaman Singh and was killed at Chittor with his father in 1303 A.D.

45. *Ajai Singh*. He was younger brother of Ari Singh and after the fall of Chittor went to Kelwara in the Western Hills and began to rule there in 1303 A.D. His sons Sajjan Singh and Khsem Singh were incapable of ruling and therefore he appointed his heir-apparent Hamir Singh, son of his elder brother Ari Singh. Displeased with this Shivaji Sajjan Singh and Khsem Singh went to Deccan. The famous founder of the Mahratta Kingdom is descended from Sajjan Singh.

46. *Hamir Singh I*. Reconquered Chittor in about 1326. He defeated and captured Mohammad Tughlak, Emperor of Delhi, at Singoli and released him after three months taking ransom. He conquered Idar, Palanpur and Haroti. All the neighbouring princes acknowledged him their superior. He ruled about 60 years and died in 1364 A.D.

47. *Khsetra Singh* 1364-82 A.D. He conquered Mandalgarh, Ajmer, Jahazpur and Chappan (southern hilly country of Mewar). He took prisoners Rao Ran Mal of Idar and King Ami Shah (Dilawar Khan) of Malwa.

48. *Lakhsa Singh or Lakha*. He conquered Mairwara. He defeated Gayasuddin Tughlak near Badnor. He laid his life in holy places and abolished the poll tax on the Hindus levied by the Musalmans in Kashi (Benares), Prayag Gaya and Muttra.

49. *Mokal* 1421-33 A.D. Rulers of Deolia Partabgarh are descended from his second son Khsem Karan. He defeated Feroze Khan of Nagore at Jawar and Jahazpur.

50. *Kumbha Karan or Kumbha* 1433-68 A.D. He was very learned, brave and fond of skilled arts. He several times defeated the kings of Malwa and Gujrat and also took as prisoner Sultan Mahamud of Malwa in 1437 A.D. To commemorate the event he built a Column of Victory at Chittorgarh. He also conquered many other places such as Bundi, Haraoti, Gagrone.

He built the fort of Kumbhalgarh, Vasantgarh at Abu and several other forts. As the Musalmans in Nagore began to be boastful and were killing cows he conquered Nagore, punished the Musalmans and demolished several mosques.

51. *Udai Karan* 1468-73 A.D. He killed his father. For this the younger brother Rai Mal turned him out of Mewar.

52. *Rai Mal* 1473-1508 A.D. He defeated the king of Malwa. The famous Kunver Prithvi Raj was his eldest son but he died in his father's life-time.

53. *Sangram Singh I or Sanga*. Born 12th April. Ascended the throne 24th May 1509 A.D. Died 30th June 1527. He defeated the kings of Delhi, Gujrat and Malwa. He took the son of Ibrahim Lodi, king of Delhi, as a prisoner. He invaded Malwa and took King Malimud prisoner and conquered the country. He kept him in custody for three months and then restored to him the half of his kingdom with a bouquet of flowers. Bahadur Khan (Bahadur Shah), Chand Khan and Ibrahim Khan, the sons of King Muzaffar Shah of Gujrat, took refuge under him. In the battle with Emperor Babar 1527 A.D. he wrested from him his red tents and Bands, etc., but one of his feudatory chiefs, Tanwar Salahdi of Raisen, went over to Babar with his 30,000 soldiers and so he was defeated at Kanva, when he received an arrow in his head which made him unconscious. However he came to Ranthambore quite prepared to fight against Babar again and marched forward with that idea. His chiefs, however, administered poison to him on the way and he ended his life. He was more eminent than any of the Hindu Kings of Northern Hindustan. He was brave and 80 wounds were counted on his body. The well-known Miran Bai was the wife of his eldest son, Bhoj Raj, who died in his father's life-time.

54. *Ratan Singh*. Accession 6th February 1527 A.D. Death 1531 A.D.

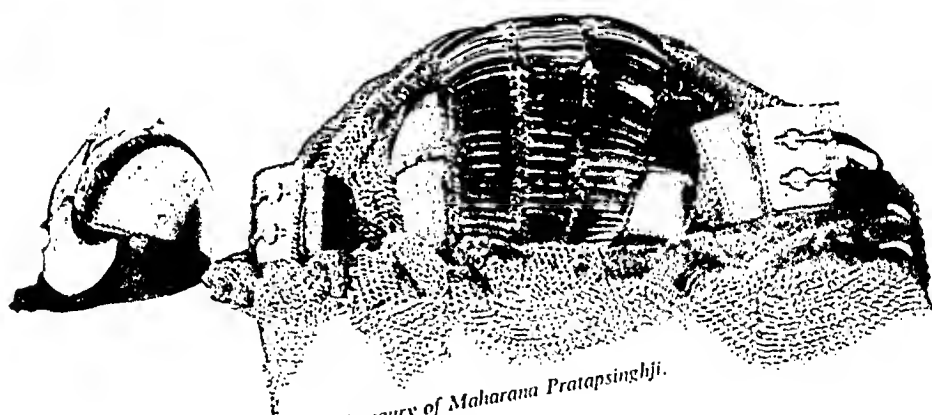
*Vikramaditya*. Born 1517 A.D. Accession 1531 A.D. Death 1536 A.D. During his time Bahadur Shah, the King of Gujrat,



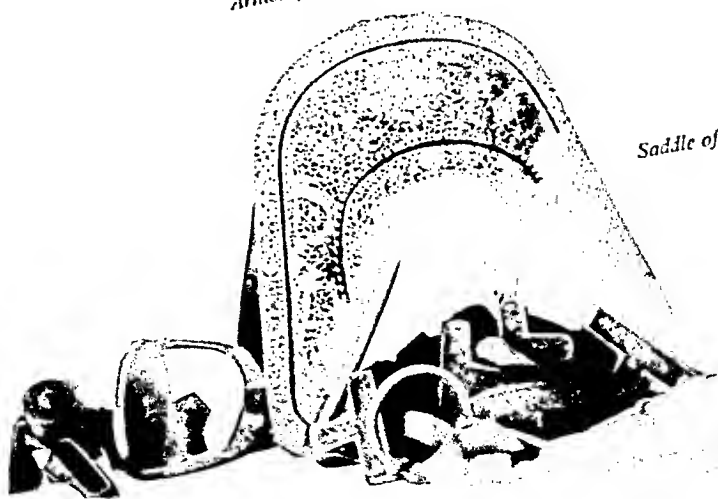
*Maharana Sangaji.*



*Maharana Pratapsinghji.*



*Armoury of Maharana Pratapsinghji.*



*Saddle of Chetak.*



attacked and occupied the fort of Chittor. Rani Karnavati performed the Juhar. This was the famous second sack of Chittor.

55. *Baunbir*. He was son of Kunver Prithvi Raj from a concubine, Maharana Vikramaditya annoyed his chiefs. Seeing the moment to be opportune he killed the Maharana and annexed the throne of Chittor for himself. Two years afterwards however Maharana Udai Singh defeated and expelled him.

56. *Udai Singh*. Born in 1522 A.D. Accession 1537 A.D. Death 28th February 1572 A.D. He founded the town of Udaipur in 1559 A.D. Akbar attacked the fort Chittor in 1567 A.D. The Maharana had already gone into the hills, and the fort was defended by his chiefs. After a siege of several months Akbar got possession of the fort. The women performed the rite of Jauhar for the cause of their honour and the Emperor on entering the fort ordered a general massacre. This was the well-known third sack of Chittor. Udaipur was then made the Capital of Mewar. When Akbar had taken Gwalior and Malwa, Raja Ram Shah Tanver of Gwalior and King Baz Bahadur of Malwa sought refuge with the Maharana.

57. *Pratap Singh I*. Born on 9th May 1540 A.D. Accession 28th February 1572 A.D. Death 19th January 1597 A.D. He constantly waged war with the Emperor Akbar, kept his wars firmly, defended his religion and maintained his independence in the famous battle of Haldighat in 1576 A.D. He defeated and scattered the Vanguard of the Imperial army under Kunver Man Singh of Amber, the General of Akbar and then returned to the hills.

58. *Amar Singh I*. Born 16th March 1559 A.D. Accession 19th January 1597 A.D. Death 26th January 1620 A.D. He fought continuously with the Moghul Emperor for 18 years and then concluded a treaty with Jehangir on certain terms in 1615 A.D. February 5. Most important of which was that Maharana will never go to Delhi. According to this Kunver Karan Singh went and was accorded the highest place above all other Rajas of Hindustan.

59. *Karan Singh II*. Born 14th January 1584 A.D. Accession 26th January 1620 A.D. Death March 1628 A.D. When prince Khuram (Shah Jahan) having rebelled against his father, Jahangir came to Udaipur, the Maharana sheltered him and kept him in Jag Mandir.

60. *Jagat Singh I*. Born 14th August 1607 A.D. Accession March 1628 A.D. Death 10th October 1652 A.D. He was very charitable and gave in charity yearly gold equal to the weight of his body. He punished his subordinate chiefs, viz., those of Dungarpur, Banswara, Deolia and Sirohi.

61. *Raj Singh I*. Born 24th September 1629 A.D. Accession 10th October 1652 A.D. Death 22nd October 1680 A.D. He got himself weighed with jewels which were subsequently given away as



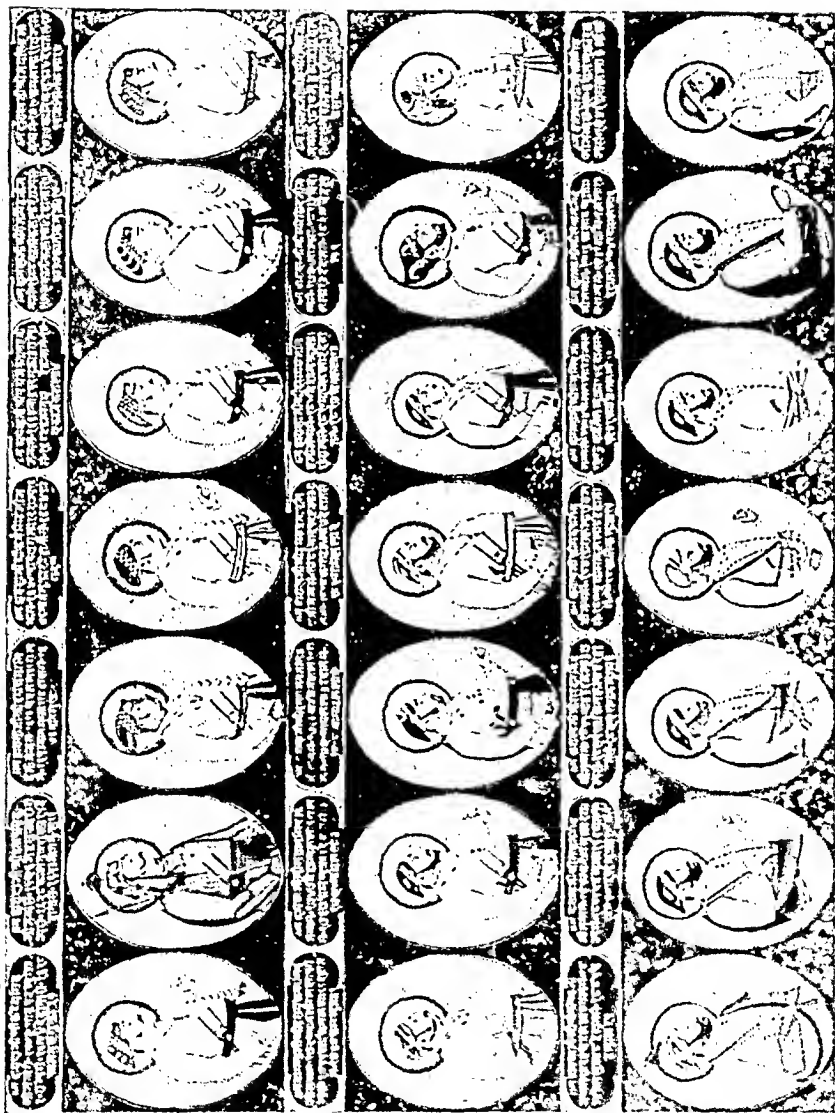
charity. He married Charumati Bai, the daughter of the Raja of Rupangarh, although she had been betrothed to Aurangzeb. When Aurangzeb took over Marwar, he protected in Mewar, the boy Maharaja Ajit Singh of Marwar on the imposition of the Jazia, the poll tax on the Hindus by Aurangzeb he protested against it and also fought on that account. He demolished several mosques and brought the idol of Sri Nathji into Mewar and established it at Nathdwara. He chastised the Rajas of Dungarpur, Banswara and Partabgarh. He plundered the territories of the Emperor. He was eventually poisoned when making preparations for war against Aurangzeb. He built the famous lake of Raj Samand.

62. *Jai Singh*. Born 5th December 1653 A.D. Accession 22nd October 1680 A.D. Death 23rd September 1678 A.D. He made peace with Aurangzeb as he was sitting on the throne. He constructed the famous Jai Samand lake.

63. *Amar Singh II*. Born 30th October 1672 A.D. Accession 28th September 1698 A.D. Death 10th December 1710 A.D. As Aurangzeb had confiscated the territories of Jaipur and Jodhpur the Maharajas of both these places came to Udaipur (Mewar). However the Maharana sent his forces and secured for both the Maharajas their dominions again. As these Princes had given their daughters in marriage to the Emperor, Mewar ceased having any relationship with them. The ban was lifted however at this time and an agreement took place to the effect that a Princess of the house of Udaipur would always hold the position of the chief queen, although she might be junior to another wife of her husband. It was further agreed that the son born of an Udaipur Princess would invariably succeed to the throne, although he might be younger than his step brother. He sent troops to Dungarpur, Banswara and Partabgarh and punished their chiefs.

64. *Sangram Singh II*. Born 21st March 1690 A.D. Accession 10th December 1710 A.D. Death 11th January 1734 A.D. He re-annexed Rampura to Mewar and gave it to his nephew Madho Singh, the younger son of Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh of Jaipur, on condition of performing service with 1,000 footmen and 1,000 horse at Udaipur and with 3,000 men and 3,000 horse in foreign countries. He subdued Idar and conferred upon Rao Bheem Singh of Kotah the title and rank of Maharao.

65. *Jagat Singh II*. Born 17th December 1709 A.D. Accession 11th January 1734 A.D. Death 5th June 1751 A.D. During his reign all the rajas of Rajasthan assembled at a place named Hoorda in Mewar. Peshwa Baji Rao came to Udaipur on the death of Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh of Jaipur, Ishwari Singh sat on the throne. On this the Maharana invited Malhar Rao Holkar and with his help established on the throne his nephew Madho Singh. In exchange for the cost of the military expenditure by Holkar, 80 lacs of rupees the Maharana gave him Rampura.



Genealogical Photo of Mewar House.



66. *Partabsingh II.* Born 27th July 1724 A.D. Accession 5th June 1751 A.D. Death 10th January 1754 A.D.

67. *Raj Singh II.* Born 25th April 1743 A.D. Accession 10th January 1754 A.D. Death 3rd April 1761 A.D.

68. *Ari Singh III.* Born 1740 A.D. Accession 3rd April 1761 A.D. Death 9th March 1773 A.D. When he succeeded the throne all the chiefs of Bedla, Kotharia, Devgarh, Begun Delwara, Kanore, Gogunda, Bhindar, etc., except a few such as Sadri, Salumber, Bejolian, Amet, Bednore, etc., rebelled and made a pretender to the throne named Ratan Singh and invited Madhorao Seindia to support them who laid siege to Udaipur but after making peace he retired. The Maharana promised to pay 60 laes of rupees. Of these 33 lacs were paid and for the remaining amount districts of Javad, Jiran and Neemuch were mortgaged. With the help of the rebellious chiefs, the pretender Ratan Singh took possession of Khumalgarh and was living there. Being afraid of his taking possession of Godwar also, Maharana lent to the Maharaja of Jodhpur the district of Godwar, only until such time as the rebellion lasted. However at the end of the rebellion Godwar was not returned. He punished the rebel chiefs and some influential men of Mewar, but in the end at the instigation of rebels Ajit Singh, the Rao Raja of Bundi, treacherously killed him while out hunting.

69. *Hamir Singh II.* Born 13th June 1761 A.D. Accession 11th March 1773 A.D. Death 6th June 1778 A.D. During his time the Rawat of Begun dishonestly took possession of a few Khalsa districts. Therefore he called Madho Rao Seindhia to punish the wrong doer. Madho Rao kept the district of Ratangarh, Singoli, etc., for himself in lieu of remuneration for his military services. Holkar seized the district of Nimbahera.

70. *Bhim Singh.* Born 10th March 1768 A.D. Accession 7th January 1778 A.D. Death 30th March 1828 A.D. Owing to internal strife among the chiefs of Mewar, the Mahrattas had plenty of opportunity to plunder Mewar during his reign. The following with armies invaded Mewar, Nawab Amir Khan, Jamshed Khan, George Thomas, Jaswant Rao Holkar and Seindhia. Peace was secured in the end when an agreement was made with the East India Company in 1818 A.D. Captain Todd came to Mewar. The Mers of Merwara were punished and order was restored in the country.

71. *Javan Singh.* Born 19th November 1800. Accession 31st March 1828 A.D. Death 30th August 1838 A.D. He went on pilgrimage to Gaya. He went to Ajmer and met Lord William Bentick. He gave his three parganas of Merwara to British Government for temporary management for 8 years.

72. *Sirdar Singh.* Born on the 29th August 1798 A.D. Accession 4th September 1838 A.D. Death 14th July 1842 A.D. He went on pilgrimage to Gaya. He regulated the administration of the district

of the Blomat and brought into being a regiment, named the Mewar Bhil Corps at Kherwara.

73. *Swaroop Singh*. Born on 8th January 1815 A.D. Accession 15th July 1842 A.D. Death 16th November 1861 A.D. He renounced drinking. In 1849 A.D. he started a new coin called Swaroop Shahi and made changes for the better in the administration. He repaid state debts and was most charitable. He gave away gold, equal in weight to his body, many times and he also established many centres of charity for the free distribution of food to the poor. He helped the British Government in the Mutiny in 1857 A.D. and gave protection to several Englishmen in the Jag Mandir during the Mutiny. He also sent a contingent to help the Maharao of Kotah.

74. *Shamblu Singh*. Born 22nd December 1847 A.D. Accession 17th November 1861 A.D. Death 8th October 1874 A.D. He went to Ajmer to meet Lord Mayo. He built schools and a hospital and established courts of law. He also built roads. The British Government conferred on him the Order of G.C.S.I. for excellent famine relief arrangements in 1868 A.D.

75. *Sajjan Singh*. Born 8th July 1859 A.D. Accession 8th October 1874 A.D. Death 23rd December 1884 A.D. He punished and deposed Teket Goswami Girdhar Lal of Nathdwara for his misbehaviour and appointed his son Governdhan Lal as Goswami in his stead. He visited Bombay, Delhi, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kishengarh. A Darbar was held at Chittor when Lord Ripon decorated him with the insignia of the G.C.S.I. He reformed the law courts and made land settlements. His personal salute was increased to 21 guns in the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in 1877 A.D.

76. *Fateh Singh*. Born 16th December 1849 A.D. Accession 24th December 1884 A.D. Death 24th May 1930 A.D. He visited Ajmer, Pushkar, Delhi, Onkar Nathi, Simla, Hardwar, Dehra Dun, Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kishengarh. During his time the present King-Emperor of England, the Prince of Wales, Duke of Connaught, Prince Albert Victor (Duke of Clarence), Grand Duke of Hesse, Prince Arthur of Connaught, Crown Prince of Sweden and Bavaria, the following Viceroys of India, Lord Dufferin, Lansdowne, Elgin, Curzon, Minto, Hardings, Chelmsford, Reading and Irwin, the Commander-in-chiefs of India, the Governors of Bombay and Madras and many other high people visited Udaipur. Besides them the Rulers of Jaipur, Jodhpur, Indore, Gwalior, Kashmir, Baroda, Kotah, Kishengarh, Idar, Dholpur, Benares, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Morvi, Dewas, Limdi, Kapurthala and Nabha visited Udaipur. He built palaces, tanks, forts, schools, hospitals, dharamshalas, roads, gardens, etc., at a total cost of several crores of rupees. He built the Railway line from Udaipur to Chittor and from Mavli to Marwar Junction. He was a man of great piety and a strict follower of religious functions.



*His late Highness Maharajadhiraj Maharana Shri Sir Fateksinghji Bahadur, G.C.S.I.  
G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O.*



In fact his life was exemplary and the work which he did during his long reign will ever remain as a monument to a wonderful, upright and just ruler. He was so regular in his personal habits and punctual in his daily routine that it is little wonder that he lived to the age of 81 years and ruled for 46 years. His charities were known throughout the whole of India. In recognition of his excellent administration and his services to his State, the Government of India decorated him with the Orders of G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., and granted him a salute of 21 guns. Later on account of the aid given by him during the Great War of 1914 he was invested with the title of G.C.V.O. and was given a local salute of 21 guns permanently.

77. *Bhopal Singh.* Born on 22nd February 1884 A.D. Accession 25th May 1930 A.D. Before coming to the throne he visited Hardwar, Dehra Dun, Simla, Onkar Nath, Jodhpur and Kishengarh. He is a man of great literary tastes. Soon after the delegation of powers of administration in 1921 A.D. he established the Bhopal Nobles School. He increased the salaries of the servants of the State. He made reforms in the administration of law and in the administration of the district of Bhomat. In a comparatively short time he built several tanks, buildings, college and roads for the benefit of his subjects at the expense of about two crores of rupees. He was invested with the Order of K.C.I.E. as personal reward for the services rendered by him during the Great War. Immediately on ascending the gadi, he gave away a sum of rupees one lac to commemorate the memory of his revered father, for the boarding of Rajput boys, and also built an inn, Fateh Memorial, for travellers. At his coronation he remitted arrears of revenue amounting to about 15 lacs of rupees to the tenants. He has left off drinking of alcohol. In recognition of his liberal, just and able administration British Government invested him with the Order of G.C.S.I. during the first year of his accession. He pardoned the Maharao Raja of Bundi and received him later in Delhi and thus ended the long-standing feud between the two States of Udaipur and Bundi. He built the Willingdon Hospital in Udaipur, the foundation of which was laid by Lord Willingdon, Viceroy of India, in 1933 A.D. Goswami Goverdhan Lal of Nathdwara died at Simla in 1933 A.D. His only son Damodar Lal married Hansa, a dancing girl of Delhi. Therefore his right of succession to the Nathdwara gadi was cancelled by His Highness and his young son Govind Lal was made Goswami of Nathdwara.

The ruling family of Mudhol, a Mahratta State in Deccan, claims their descent from the Sheshodia Maharanas of Chittor. They assert that Kunver Sajain Singh, the son of Rana Ajaisingh, went towards the south of India and founded the present state of Mudhol. (Famous Shivaji, founder of Mahratta Empire, was also descended from this House). On Historical satisfaction with a view to establish family relations His Highness allowed the adoption of Raghubir Singh, a



scion of the Netawal House of the Sheshodias, to Narain Rao, the uncle of the Raja of Mudhol.

On the eve of the coming Federation of India, he has established a Chief Court at Udaipur, and the British Government has handed over back the Mewar Mairwara district to Mewar State from 1st April.

## *The Names of the Estates of the First Class Nobles of Udaipur*

### **BADI SADRI**

Principal town of an estate of the same name is situated about 50 miles east by south-east of Udaipur city. Its population according to the census of 1931 was 5,199. The present Raj Rana, Kalyan Singh, is one of the first class and is premier noble of Mewar and is descended from the famous Jhala Aja, who was killed in the battle of Fatehpur Sikri while fighting against Emperor Baber in place of Maharana Sanga and received all royal insignias of the Maharana. The castle of the Raj Rana is built on a hill at the edge of a lake.

### **BEDLA**

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated on the left bank of the Ahar stream about four miles north of Udaipur city. Its population according to census of 1931 is 1,233. Rao Bahadur Rao Nahar Singh, the present Rao of Bedla, is the second senior noble of Mewar and is descended from the famous Prithviraj Chauhan, the last Hindu King of Delhi. The great grandfather of the present Rao was Rao Bahadur Bakhat Singh, C.I.E., who rendered valuable services in the Mutiny of 1857 and received a sword of honour from the Imperial Government.

### **KOTHARIA**

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated on the right bank of the Banas river, about 30 miles north-east of Udaipur City. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 1,585. The present Rawat Man Singh is a Chauhan Rajput and is descended from the famous Prithvi Raj Chauhan, the last Hindu King of Delhi and Ajmer. The Rawat is one of the first class nobles of Mewar. There is a step well here made of white marble built by Purohit Dina Nath, an ancestor of the author (Deo Nath Purohit).

### **SALUMBER**

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated about 40 miles south way of Udaipur City. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 4,691. A masonry wall surrounds the town which is protected on the north by lofty and picturesque hills. One of these hills immediately overlooks the castle and is surmounted by a small fort and outer works. The castle of the Rawat is on the lake and the

scenery all round is very charming. The present Rawat Khuman Singh is the head of Chundawat clan of Sheshodia Rajputs and is descended from Chonda, the eldest son of Maharana Lakha. He is one of the first class nobles of Mewar.

## BIJOLIA

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated close to the Bundi border about 112 miles north-east of Udaipur City. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 2,417. The present Rao Swai Kesri Singh is one of the first class nobles of Mewar and is a Punwar Rajput. Bijolian is a table land and is named Upermal and among the places of interest on this high ground are three Shivaite temples of the tenth century. There is also a large reservoir named the Mandakin Baori, also contains fine Jain temples dedicated to Paras Nath and the remains of a palace which was built in the twelfth century. There are also two rock inscriptions of the period last mentioned : one gives the genealogy of the Chauhans of Ajmer from Chahaman and other is a Jain poem named Nath Shikar Puran.

## DEOGARH

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated close to the Merwara border and about 68 miles north by north-east of Udaipur City. The town is walled and has a fine castle and a fort. Its population according to the census of 1931 is about 6,309. The present Rawat Bijai Singh is a Sangawat Chondawat and is descended from Chonda, the eldest son of Maharana Lakha. Nearly three miles from Deogarh at Anjna is a large hollow rock worth visit, in which is a temple of Shiva. The hollow or cavern is so large that several hundreds of people can be accommodated there. Deogarh is a railway station on the Udaipur-Chittorgarh Railway Khamlighat Section.

## BEGUN

Chief town of an estate of the same name, is situated 90 miles east by north-east of Udaipur City. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 4,364. The town has a picturesque castle and a fort. The present Rawat Swai Anop Singh is a Megawat Chondawat and is descended from Chonda, the eldest son of Maharana Lakha. He is one of the first class nobles of Mewar. There are old Hindu temples in Minal, a village of this estate. The Temple of Mahanaldev (Shiva) with a pool in front of it is very beautiful.

## DELWARA

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated 14 miles north of Udaipur City. Its population is about 2,000. The present Raj Rana Khuman Singh is one of the first class nobles of Mewar and is a Jhala Rajput.

## MEJA

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated about 80 miles north-east of Udaipur City and 6 miles south-west of Mandal Station on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 968. The present Rawat Jai Singh is a Jugawat Chondawat Rajput and is descended from the famous Patta Sheshodia, who was killed in the third sack of Chittor in 1568 A.D. fighting against Akbar.

## AMET

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated on the right bank of the river Chanderbhaga is a Gadbhor road station on the Khamli Ghat Section of the U.C. Railway, about fifty miles north-west of Udaipur City. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 3,899. The present Rawat Govind Singh is one of the first class nobles of Mewar and is a descendant of the famous Patta Sheshodia, a most distinguished Rajput who was slain in 1568 A.D. at Rampol gate of Chittorgarh fighting against Akbar and is head of the Jagawat Chondawat clan.

## GOGUNDA

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated in the Aravalli Hills, 2,751 feet above the sea level and is 16 miles north-west of Udaipur City. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 2,571. There is a chhatri or cenotaph of Maharana Udai Singh, the founder of Udaipur City who died there in 1572 A.D. The present Raj Bhainro Singh, a minor, is one of the first class nobles of Mewar and is a Jhala Rajput.

## KANORE

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated about 38 miles east by south of Udaipur City. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 3,693. The present Rawat Karan Singh is a Sarangdev Sheshodia descended from Aja, elder brother of Maharana Mokal and is one of the first class nobles of Mewar.

## BHINDAR

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated about 32 miles east by north-east of Udaipur City. Its population according to the census of 1931 is 5,635. The present chief is Maharaj Man Singh and he is descended from Skhat Singh, the younger son of Maharana Udai Singh, the founder of Udaipur City. He is one of the first class nobles of Mewar and is head of the Saktawat clan.

## BADNORE

Principal town of an estate of the same name is situated close to the border of the Ajmer-Merwara district about 96 miles north-east of

Udaipur. Its population, according to the census of 1931 A.D., is 2,232. The present Thakur Gopal Singh is one of the first class nobles of Mewar and is a descendant of the famous Jaimal Rathore, who was killed at Chittorgarh, fighting against Akbar in 1568 A.D. The castle of the Thakur is situated on a hillock surrounded on three sides by a lake and immediately is the lofty hill of Bairatgarh, where are to be found the ruins of an old fort destroyed by Maharana Lakha in the 14th century.

### **BHAINSRORGARH**

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated at the confluence of the Bamni and the Chambal rivers about 120 miles east by north-east of Udaipur City. Its population, according to the census of 1931, is 1,209. The present Rawat Indra Singh is a Krishnawat Chondawat descended from Chonda, and is one of the first class nobles of Mewar. The town is said to have been built by a Mahajan named Bhainsa Sah, a servant of the Chauhan Kings of Ajmer and Sambhar. It overlooks the only crossing place which exists for many miles across the Chambal River. About three miles east of Bhainsrorgarh is a group of temples, which Fergusson considered the most perfect of their age that he had met with in that part of the country and in their own peculiar style perhaps as beautiful as temples in India. The principal temple dedicated to Ghateshwar stands in a walled enclosure which is full of other interesting buildings and ruins. The most important are the Singar Chaori or nuptial hall of Raja Hun, the shrines of Ganesh and Narad; two columns, one erect and other prostrate, possibly intended as a toran or tribulation, the shrine of Asta Mata and the shrine of Tri Murti or Hindu Triad, Brahama, Vishnu and Shiva. Outside the enclosure is a fountain or kund with a miniature temple in the middle, and surrounded by small shrines in one of which is a figure of Vishnu reposing on the Shesh Sayya or the serpent, which Fergusson thought the most beautiful piece of purely Hindu sculpture he had ever seen. The buildings are said to belong to the ninth or tenth century. In carving and artistic conception there is nothing in Mewar to equal them except perhaps the Sas Bahu Temple at Nagda near Udaipur City.

### **BANSI**

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated about 80 miles east by west of Udaipur City. Its population, according to the census of 1931, is 1,112. The present Rawat Hari Singh is one of the first class nobles of Mewar and is descended from Sakhat Singh, the younger son of Maharana Udai Singh, the founder of Udaipur City.

### **KURABAD**

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated on the left bank of a stream named the Godi about 20 miles south-east of Udaipur

City. Its population, according to the census of 1931, is 2,070. The present Rawat Nardev Singh is a Kishnawat Rajput and is descended from the Salumber family and is one of the first class nobles of the Mewar.

### PARSOLI

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated about 84 miles north-east of Udaipur City. Its population, according to the census of 1931, is 1,043. The present Rao Lal Singh is a Chauhan Rajput and is one of the first class nobles of Mewar.

### KARJALI

It is situated 55 miles to the east of Udaipur City. Its population, according to the census of 1931, is 627. Maharaj Lachman Singh, the nephew of the late Maharana Sahib, is the present Maharaj of Karjali.

### SHIVRATI

Shivrati is situated 60 miles to the north-east of Udaipur City. Its population, according to the census of 1931, is 623. The present Maharaj Shivadan Singh is the son of the late Maharaj Himat Singh, the nephew of the late Maharana Sahib Fatch Singhji who was elected ruler of Mewar from this house in 1884 A.D.

### BUNERA

Chief town of an estate of the same name is situated about 90 miles north-east of Udaipur City and five miles east of Mandal Station on the B. B. & C. I. Railway. Its population, according to the census of 1931, is 4,519. The town is a walled one and it is on a hill 1,903 feet above the sea-level. The present Raja Amar Singh is a descendant of Bhim Singh, younger son of Maharana Raj Singh I, and is one of the first class nobles of Mewar. The title of Raja Dhiraj has been conferred upon him by the present Maharana Sahib Bahadur.

### KACHOLA (Shahpura)

Kachola is the headquarter and chief town of the fief Raja Dhiraj Umed Singh of Shahpura in Mewar State, and is situated three miles east of the Banas River about 100 miles east of Udaipur City and 20 miles south-east of the town of Shahpura. Its population, according to the census of 1931, is 1,576. The present Raja Dhiraj Umed Singh is a descendant of Suraj Mal, younger son of Maharana Amar Singh I, and is one of the first class nobles of Mewar.

### SARDARGARH

Chief town of an estate of the same name. It is situated on the right bank of the river Chandra Bhaga and is about 50 miles north-east of Udaipur City. It is a railway station on the Khamli Ghat Section of the U. C. Railway. Its population, according to the census

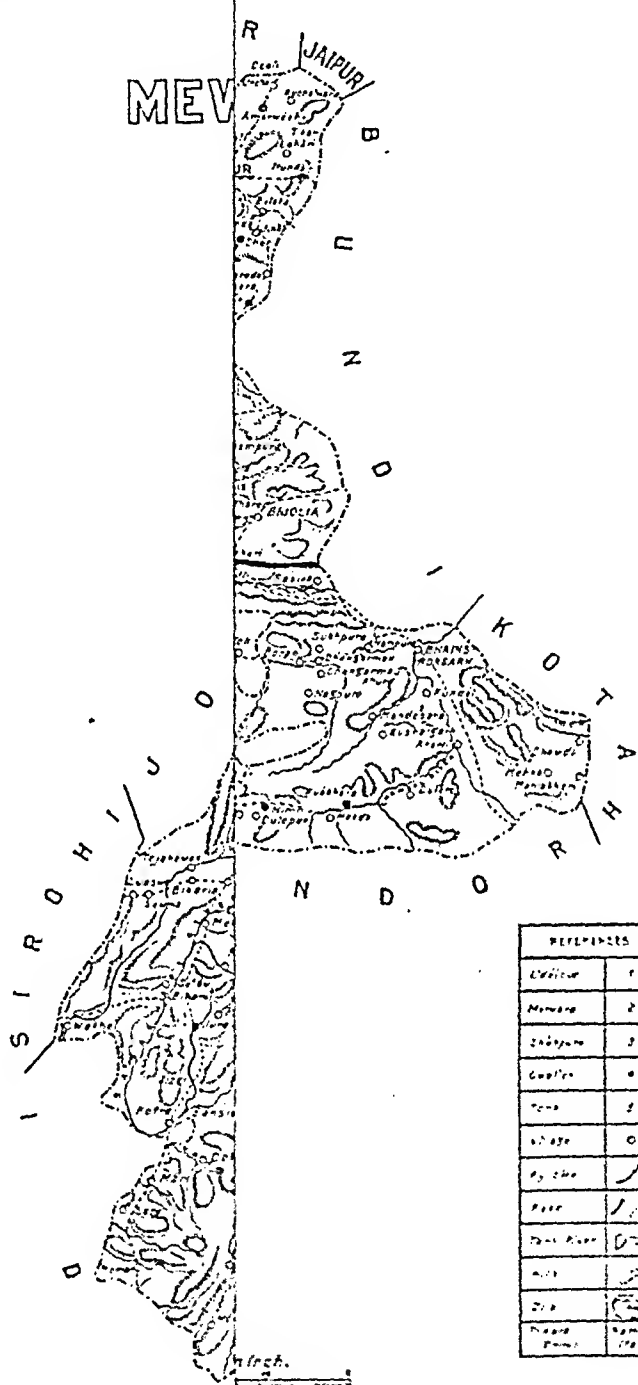
of 1931, is 2,475. The old name of the place was Lawa but it has been called Sardargarh since 1738 A.D. A strong fort surrounded by a double wall stands on a hillock to the north overlooking to the lake built 40 years ago. The present Thakur Amar Singh is a Dodia Rajput and is one of the first class nobles of Mewar.

### SONIANA

This estate, along with the honour of a first class noble of Mewar State, was conferred last year upon Dewan Bahadur Thakur Dharam Narain, C.I.E., a Kashmiri Pandit, the Musahib Ala of Mewar State, by the present Maharana Sahib Bahadur. He also holds the jagir of Jasnagar in Marwar State.







REFERENCES	
Chellur	1
Mewar	2
Jaipur	3
Govt.	4
Town	5
State	6
By the	7
Path	8
State Road	9
Water	10
Tree	11
Forest	12









